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THE
CHARTERS
OF
THE TOWN
OF
KINGSTON UPON THAMES,
Translated into English:
WITH
OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY *GEORGE ROOTS,*
OF LINCOLN'S INN.

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1797.

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C. K. OGDEN

To
The Right Honourable
L O R D O N S L O W,
THE HIGH STEWARD,
THE BAILIFFS AND FREEMEN
of
The Town of Kingston upon Thames.
THIS TRANSLATION
of
THE CHARTERS OF THE SAME TOWN,
is inscribed
by their obedient
and humble Servant,

The Author.



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P R E F A C E.

TO the general history of Kingston, so well understood, little or nothing new is to be said in addition. I had entertained the hope, however, that the records of the town might have afforded some anecdotes relating to it, worthy of the perusal of the reader; but in this I was mistaken, not having been so successful as to meet with any thing there either interesting or curious. There are several old books of churchwardens and overseers accounts, wherein there is little worthy of notice beyond the difference they exhibit between the price of provisions and labour at the time they were written and the present. Of this Mr. Lysons has taken notice, in his *Historical Account of the Environs within Twelve Miles of London*; wherein he has comprized most of the particulars to be met with in the different authors who have treated upon Kingston before.

Accurate as he is in his general description, this Gentleman seems to have fallen into an error in one place, where he states that “Kingston ceased to be a borough, in consequence of a petition from the corporation (recorded in the Town-Clerk’s Office) the prayer of which was, that they might be relieved from the burden of sending Members to Parliament;”—and in support of which he refers the reader to *Willis’s Notitia Parliamentaria*. But this I apprehend is a mistake; for I have perused this author, without being able to meet with any such passage; and I have searched and made enquiries, but in vain, for the petition. It is more than probable, therefore, that this privilege was lost merely by discontinuance, as was the case with several other places; and a short examination of the ancient method of carrying into execution the elective franchise will doubly warrant this supposition.

* Neither prescription nor the ancient charters of any of our Kings, appear to have constituted the primary and original right by which cities and boroughs formerly sent citizens and burgessees to parliament. † It was not till considerably after the union of the houses of York

* Prynn’s Brev. Parl. Brady’s Historical Treatise.

† Author of the Translation of Sully’s Memoirs.

and Lancaſter, that it became a practice to grant charters to places, empowering them with this privilege. There is one inſtance to the contrary noted in Willis's book, as early as King Edward IV. who, by a charter dated 29th of November 1448, empriviledged *Wenlock Magna*, in the county of Shropſhire, to ſend one burgeſſ to parliament; which is the firſt precedent, according to the ſame author, that occurs in the charter of any borough. But it was a thing by no means common at that time, nor became ſo till the reign of Henry VIII. and Edward VI. when we meet with many inſtances.

* Before that period it was left wholly to the ſheriff of each county to name and direct which were boroughs, and which not, by virtue of the general and indefinite claufe contained in the King's writs of ſummons of parliaments iſſued to the ſheriffs of every county, prior to the aſſembling of every ſuch parliament. In that age of our political ſimplicity, when the ſpirit of party and the rage of faction were alike unknown, there was not ſuch a general ambition of being called to the ſenate as at preſent; † but the perſons elected, as well as the perſons electing them, eſteemed it rather a burthen and

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

† Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.
Johnſon's Excellency of Monarchical Government.

an inconvenience, than an honour and an advantage; and therefore, after being chosen, lest they should neglect to repair to the convention, they had sureties (called Manucaptors) for their appearance there. The form of the royal mandate to the sheriffs was in this manner:—"Tibi
 "præcipimus firmiter injungentes quod de co-
 "mitatu prædicto duos milites, et de *qualibet*
 "civitate ejusdem comitatus duos cives, et de
 "quolibet burgo duos burgenfes de discretioribus
 "et ad laborandum potentioribus, &c. sine di-
 "latione eligi et eos ad nos ad dictos diem et
 "locum venire facias; ita quod, &c. dicti cives
 "et burgenfes pro se et pro communitate civita-
 "tum et burgorum prædictorum divisim ab ipsis
 " (militibus comitatus) habeant ad faciendum
 "et consentiendum hiis quæ tunc de communi
 "consilio contigerit ordinari," &c.—Under the authority of these general words *de qualibet civitate, et de quolibet burgo*, each sheriff, according to his own will and discretion, sent the writ directed to him, or the precepts grounded on it, to whatsoever cities or boroughs he pleased, using an arbitrary power in the execution of this office, either as his judgment directed, or favour and partiality swayed him *; this evidently appears in the difference we find between their several returns; some sheriffs returning more bo-

* Prymne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Historical Treatise.

roughs and burgesſes than their predeceſſors; others fewer; ſome omitting thoſe very boroughs which their predeceſſors had returned; and others again cauſing elections and returns to be made for ſuch new boroughs as never elected or ſent any members either before or ſince the time of their ſhrievalties.

The firſt returns extant of knights, citizens, and burgeſſes, are 26 Edward I.; and in the return made for Wiltſhire, in that year, annexed to the writ, there were returned two knights for the county, two citizens for New Sarum, two burgeſſes for Downton, two burgeſſes for the Devizes, two for the borough of Chippenham, and two for Malmesbury, with their Manucaptors; and the writ was alſo ſent to the conſtable of Marlborough, and to the bailiffs of the liberty of Calne and Worthe, who returned no answer. Theſe were the only places that the ſheriff of this year made his precepts to, and returns for accordingly.

In the returns of knights, citizens, and burgeſſes to ſerve for the ſame county, 12 Edward III. after the return of the knights, the ſheriff for that year returned only two citizens for New Sarum, two burgeſſes for Wilton, and two for Downton, with Manucaptors; and then for two burgeſſes for Marlborough, the writ was

returned to the constable of the castle of Marlborough, because it could not be executed by the sheriff in that liberty; and the constable gave him no answer. The sheriff then, it appears, made his precept and return for these two boroughs only; one of which was not returned in the 26 Edward I.; and then after his answer concerning Marlborough, he closes his return thus: — “Non sunt plures civitates, neque burgi, infra ballivam meam,” that is within the county; notwithstanding Bedwin, Calne, Chippenham, Cricklade, Devizes, Ludgershall, Malmesbury, and Marlborough (but especially the two latter) had frequently returned burgesses to parliament before.

In the return of the 36th year of the same reign, after the knights for the county, and two citizens for New Sarum, there were by the sheriff for that year returned two burgesses for Wilton, two for the borough of Old Sarum, two for the borough of Downton, two for the borough of Chippenham, two for the borough of Calne, two for the borough of Marlborough, two for the borough of Devizes, two for the borough of Malmesbury, two for the borough of Cricklade, and two for Bedwin; and then after the names of the burgesses for these ten boroughs, with their Manucaptors, the sheriff closes his return with these words, “Et non sunt plures
“civitates

“ civitates nec burgi in comitatu prædicto, ideo
 “ inde ulterius nihil actum est ;” ‘ and there are
 no more cities nor boroughs within the said
 county, and therefore there is nothing further
 done in this matter.’

In this return, notwithstanding the sheriff re-
 turned that there were no more cities nor bo-
 roughs within his county, yet he left out Lud-
 gerihall, which had sent burgesſes to parliament
 7 Edward II. ; twice in the 8th of Edward II. ;
 and the 4th, 14th, and 33d of Edward III. ; as
 the returns of those years ſhew.

In the 43 Edward III. the sheriff returns only
 the names of the knights, citizens for New Sa-
 rum, and burgesſes for Wilton, Old Sarum,
 Marlborough, the Devizes, Malmesbury, Crick-
 lade, and no more ; making no return for
 Calne, Chippenham, Bedwin, or Ludgerihall,
 nor any excuse why he did not,

In the 26 Edward I. the sheriff of Bucking-
 hamshire made this return on the dors of the
 writ, “ Nulli sunt cives, nec burgenſes in com.
 “ prædict. nec civitas nec burgus, propter quod
 “ cives nec burgenſes coram vobis venire facere
 “ non poſſum.” ‘ There are no citizens nor
 burgesſes in the county aforeſaid, nor city nor
 borough ;

borough; for which cause I cannot make citizens or burgesſes to come before you.’

In the 28th of the ſame reign, the ſheriff returned for Agmondeſham, Wycomb, and Wendover, two burgesſes each, who were elected by thoſe places.

In the 30th year of the ſame reign, there were only two burgesſes returned for Wycomb, and none for either Agmondeſham or Wendover.

In the 1ſt and 2nd Edward II. the then ſheriffs returned two burgesſes for Wycomb, two for Wendover, two for Agmondeſham, and two for Great Marlow.

And in the 6 Edward II. the ſheriff returned “Nullæ ſunt civitates in com. Bucks, nec etiam
“burgi, præter in villa de Wycombe.” ‘There are no cities nor boroughs in the county of Buckinghamſhire, except in the town of Wycomb.’

In the 12th of the ſame King, Wycomb alone is returned in Bucks; and in the cloſe of the return, “Nulla eſt civitas, nec plures burgi in bailiva mea.” ‘There is no city nor more boroughs in my bailiwick;’ and ſo no other boroughs were returned in this county until after the reign of Edward IV. or the parliament in 1641. Beſides theſe

these few instances which I have selected, there are divers omissions of many other inconsiderable boroughs for 50, 100, 150, and from that to 300 or more years, grounded upon the like returns; some of which only sent burgettes once or twice before the years 1640—I *. For instance, Cockermouth, in the county of Cumberland, made two returns; one in the reign of Edward I. and one in Edward III.; but none afterwards till 1640, since which it has regularly sent two †. Tregony likewise, in Cornwall, made two returns to parliament in the reign of Edward I, but no more till the 5th of Queen Elizabeth. Thus it was also in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Dorsetshire, Devonshire, Somerset, Southampton, Surrey, Suffex, and most, if not all the counties in England, where there were at the time of making the returns, any small, poor, or inconsiderable boroughs; and where the sheriffs were more or less kind to them, they returned or omitted them at pleasure.

And to such a length was this practice of the sheriffs carried, that there was a law passed in the 5 Richard II. that if any sheriff should from thenceforth be negligent in making his returns of writs of the parliament, or should leave out of the said returns any cities or boroughs that

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Historical Treatise.

† Curiosities of Great Britain.

were bound, and of old time were wont to come to parliament, he should be punished in the same manner as was accustomed to be done in the said case in time past. But notwithstanding this law, the sheriffs still continued to act in many instances as they had done before.

By this then it is evident, that from the 23 Edward I. when the first writs were issued for the choice of citizens and burgesſes, and also during the several reigns of Edward II. and III. Richard II. Henry IV. V. and VI. and Edward IV. it was left solely to the discretion and judgment of the sheriffs to determine which boroughs were fit and able to send burgesſes, and which not; and if any borough, once able, became poor and indigent, and unable to pay the expences of their burgesſes, or had none fit to chuse, it was considered as affording just grounds for the sheriff to excuse them from the trouble and charge of electing and sending members, notwithstanding the statutes 5 Richard II. c. 4. — 1 Henry V. c. 1. — 8 Henry VI. c. 7. and 23 Henry VI. c. 15.

The charters of ancient boroughs (as Prynne observes) contained no clause or grant for the choice or election of burgesſes to serve in parliament; and he states further, that he had never heard of nor seen any particular directions from

the King and Council, or others, to the sheriffs, for the sending their precepts to this or that borough only, and not to others.

Nor during the whole of these several reigns do we find that the boroughs ever complained of the sheriffs for not returning them, or neglecting to send their precepts to them; nor did they ever remonstrate as being hardly used or dealt with, not accounting it at that time any advantage, honour, or privilege to be bound to send burgesſes to parliament*; but, on the contrary, it being reputed a burthen and grievance where poor and ſmall boroughs were obliged to ſend them, as was the caſe with Toriton, in Devonſhire, that petitioned the King in parliament to be diſcharged from ſending burgesſes; ſtating that it was a great trouble and charge, and to their manifeſt damage and depreſſion.

† This borough, as appears by the returns before the 42 Edward III. had upon ſeveral writs and precepts elected and returned burgesſes to no leſs than thirty-two parliaments, and had at that time two burgesſes returned for the parliament of 42 Edward III. which began the 11th of May. No ſooner was this parliament aſſembled, than the bailiffs, burgesſes, and whole common-

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

† Ibid.

alty of Toriton exhibited their complaint by petition to the King in parliament, setting forth that they ought not to be burthened with the sending any men out of the town to parliament, for the reasons expressed in this memorable patent of exemption from sending burgessees to any parliaments.

“ Rex ballivis et probis hominibus et toti
 “ communitati villæ de Toriton in comitatu
 “ Devon. salutem. Ex parte vestra nobis est
 “ monstratum quod cum villa ad mittend. ali-
 “ quos homines, pro eadem villa ad parlamenta
 “ nostra, vel progenitorum nostrorum quondam
 “ regum Angliæ non miserit, nec mittere con-
 “ sueverit ante annum regni nostri vicesimum
 “ primum quo tempore vicecomes noster comi-
 “ tatus prædicti qui tunc fuit, dictam villam de
 “ Toriton burgum et duos homines pro eodem
 “ burgo ad veniendum ad parlamentum nos-
 “ trum, dicto anno vicesimo primo tentum sum-
 “ monitos fuisse malitiose in cancellaria nostra
 “ retornavit. Et sic eadem villa de Toriton ab
 “ eodem anno vicesimo primo ad inveniend.
 “ duos homines pro eadem villa in singulis annis
 “ parliamentis nostris tentis pretextu returni
 “ prædicti onerata extitit : Et vos ea occasione
 “ laboribus et expensis multipliciter gravati
 “ fuistis ad vestrum dampnum non modicum
 “ et depressionem manifestam, super quo nobis
 supplicastis

“ supplicastis vobis remedium adhiberi oppor-
 “ tunum. Et quia scrutatis rotulis et memo-
 “ randis cancellariæ nostræ non est compertum
 “ nomina aliquorum hominum pro dicta villa
 “ seu burgo de Toriton ad veniend. ad parlia-
 “ menta nostra ante dictum viceſimum primum
 “ return. fuiſſe nos nolentes dictam villam de
 “ Toriton occasione prædicta indebite onerari,
 “ vos et villam prædictam ad inveniend. feu
 “ mittend. aliquos homines ad parlamenta noſ-
 “ tra de cetero communis ſummonitionis parlia-
 “ mentorum eorundem *habemus et tenemus ex-*
 “ *cuſatos*, et vos inde exoneramus per præſentes
 “ in perpetuum. In cujus rei teſtimonium, &c.
 “ Teſte rege apud Weſtm. 18 die Martii.

“ per petitionem de Parlamento.”

* It is obſervable that, notwithstanding this pa-
 tent, exempting the men and borough of Toriton
 from being obliged to ſend burgeſſes to any
 future parliaments; yet the very next year,
 43 Edward III. and likewiſe an. 46, 47, 50
 Edward III. — 5, 6, 7, 8, and 20 Richard II.
 and 1 and 5 Henry IV. they conſtantly found
 and ſent two burgeſſes themſelves, or had them
 returned for them by the ſheriff; but ſince the
 5 Henry IV. till his time, the ſame author ob-
 ſerves that they never had any burgeſſes returned

* Prynne's Brev. Parliament. Brady's Hiſtorical
 Treatiſe.

that he could find by record or history. From which he is induced to believe, that this misinformation was either disproved by the sheriff of Devon, or others, upon better search of the rolls and memorials of Chancery ; and thereupon this patent revoked or declared null in law, because grounded upon a false information, or else because Toriton was an ancient borough, not fit to be exempted from sending burgesſies to future parliaments, as the statute 5 Richard II. declared the old law of England to be.

These circumstances considered, will, I conceive, afford ſufficient room for belief, that the true reason of * Kingſton having diſcontinued to ſend burgesſies was, not becauſe of any petition being ever preſented for ſuch exemption, but becauſe the ſheriff omitted, either through favour or from ſome other motive, to ſend his

* This is not the only diſcontinued borough in this county that formerly ſent members. The borough of Farnham alſo has made three returns to parliament, though it has now loſt that privilege.

4 Ed. II. parl. at Weſt. Tho. de Tyghelere, Tho. de Sutton
5 Ed. II. parl. at Lon. Tho. de Tyghelere, Tho. de Sutton
38 Hen. VI. parl. at Weſt. H. Taddenham, Rich. Beaufitz.

This Thomas de Sutton was an anceſtor of our late worthy ſheriff, Thomas Sutton of Moleſy, Eſq. whoſe family is of great antiquity, tracing its deſcent, as appears by a pedigree through the barony of Lexington, as high as the Norman conqueſt, and ſettled in the county of Surry ſeveral centuries back.

precept to them for that purpose,—as the grounds upon which they ever elected any, may reasonably be ascribed to the same arbitrary inclination in the sheriff, in compelling them to make a return.

With regard to the number of returns ever made by that place, I observe Mr. Lyons follows the author of the *Notitia Parliamentaria*, who states only four, namely in the 4, 5, and 6 Edward II. and 47 Edward III. whereas Prynne, Camden, the *Magna Britannia*, and the *History of Surry*, make them five, by adding to the above four the 26th Edward III. also: though Prynne, it is true, in his account of the names of the burgesses, omits those who served in the latter; which may be owing to the return having been lost, or not found when the others were: and the copy of it is also wanting in the archives of the town, where they have copies of the four other returns taken from the originals found in the Tower. The following is a list of the burgesses who were returned by that place, and the parliaments they served in:

- 4 Ed. II. parl. at Weſt. Adam le Tempier, John de Cruce
 - 5 Ed. II. parl. at Lond. Roger le Canteler, John Tuill
 - 6 Ed. II. parl. at Weſtm. John Tely, John atte Cruich
 - 26 Ed. III. The names of these burgesses do not any-
where appear. *Hugh*
 - 47 Ed. III. parl. at Weſt. ~~Henry~~ Thorne, John Haveryng
- making but five returns in all, and none since.

Now

Now had such a petition been presented to be freed from that burthen, some trace of it, I should think, must have been met with; and if an entire copy had not been preserved, yet minutes at least would have been registered. Besides, so accurate an observer as Prynne generally was, would hardly have suffered this circumstance to have escaped his notice; and he only mentions it as among those many places which were obliged to make returns at one time, and were excused at another, merely at the caprice of the sheriff. There are several other * authors too, and particularly *Willis*, who take notice of this place having formerly sent members, but state merely that the privilege is now lost, without saying a word of any petition; which, had there really been any such, it is more than likely that some one of them would have been acquainted with.

The only grounds upon which such a petition could ever have been presented, must have been on account of their poverty and inability to pay their burgessees, and because they were unjustly compelled to make a return. Now, with regard to the first part of the allegation, the truth would

* See *Magna Britannia*—*Camden's Britannia*—*History of Surry*—*Curiosities of Great Britain*—*A Tour through England*.

be at variance with the assertion, and the plea of poverty could not be sustained by the fact; for Kingston was always a place of sufficient wealth to have afforded the expences of its burgesſes with much more eaſe than many other places which paid them from the fiſt, without the leaſt complaint. Indeed, from every former account, it appears that it has much fallen from its original conſequence; and that its trade has diminiſhed as well as its markets dwindled away,* compared with what they formerly were. This being the caſe then, what room is there to pretend that it was not equally able to have ſupported its burgesſes expences with Guildford, Downton, Wilton, the Devizes, Old Sarum, Calne, Chippenham, and many others, who with much more propriety might have pleaded their poverty in excuſe?

Such a report, notwithstanding, has certainly been credited about Kingston, that it had ceaſed to ſend members, in conſequence of a petition, praying to be exempt from that burthen, which it was not able to ſupport. But how, or from what ſuch a report ever aroſe, is more than I could ever learn. With all the enquiry I could make, I have never been able to meet with any one who had ſeen ſuch a petition, or any written account or trace of it, though many who pretend

to have heard of it: for which reason I am the more strongly induced to believe *hearsay* evidence to be the only authority that can be adduced in support of it.

The following Anecdotes are added, as being unnoticed by former Writers.

“ Anno Domini millesimo 445, et anno regis Henry V^u. 23, in vigilia purificationis, combusta est magna pars campanilis de Kyngeston et unus in ecclesia ex timore visus spiritus mortuus.”

‘ In the year of our Lord 1445, and in the 23d year of King Henry the Fifth, on the eve of the Purification, a great part of the belfrey of Kyngeston was burnt; and a person died in the church, through fear of a spirit which he saw there.’

“ In primo die mensis Octobris, anno Domini 1467, et anno Regis Edwardi quarti septimo, Rex tenuit magnum consilium cum Dominis apud Kyngiltone super Thamesiam, ubi Domina Margareta, soror regis E. in præsentia Domi-

Dominorum agreavit se ad concludendum matrimonium cum Domino Karolo Duce Burgundiæ. Comes Warwici non fuit ibidem, sed in partibus borealibus.”

‘ On the first day of the month of October, in the year of our Lord 1467, and in the seventh year of King Edward the IVth, the King held a great council with the Lords at Kingston upon Thames, where the Lady Margaret, sister of King Edward, agreed to conclude a marriage with Lord Charles, Duke of Burgundy. The Earl of Warwick was not there, being in the north.’

Wilhelmi Wyrcester Annales rerum Anglicarum.

Kingston upon Thames, 1696.

Mercurii, 24^o die Feb. 9 Gul. 3ⁱⁱ.

A petition of the bailiffs, lords of the manor, and tenants of the same, and other the freemen and inhabitants of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surrey, was presented to the house and read; setting forth, That the poor of the said town daily increase, and are become very burdensome to the inhabitants: that there are large commons belonging to the said town, clear of timber, and of little use; which if improved by sowing flax, hemp, &c. would employ their poor, and ease the inhabitants, who

are willing to build conveniences for teaching and employing the poor, and their children; which may not only be a comfortable subsistence to themselves, but an advantage to the nation: and praying leave to bring in a bill, empowering them to enclose as much of their commons as they, from time to time, shall find cause to employ for the uses of their poor; and that such enclosures may be exempted from all taxes and tythes.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill to inclose the said commons, tythe free for some time, and to set the poor on work; and that Sir Richard Onslow do prepare and bring in the bill. *Journals of the House of Commons.*

But it was never presented.

A similar idea was agitated, as I am informed, about twenty or thirty years ago, but never acted upon.

CHARTERS
OF
KINGSTON UPON THAMES.

CHARTER OF KING JOHN.

*Grant of the Town of Kingston to the Freemen
of the Town.*

JOHN, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, Count of ^{Anjou} ~~Ande~~ ~~gavenny~~. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provoosts, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting. Know ye That we have given, granted, and by this our present Charter confirmed to our Freemen of Kyngeston, our town of Kyngeston, with all its appurtenances in fee farm, to have and to hold to them and their heirs of us and our heirs, in their hand for ever entirely,

with all the liberties and free customs which the same town was accustomed and ought to have at the time in which it was in our hand, yielding thence to our Exchequer by their hand yearly fifty pounds of silver; that is to say, half at the Easter Exchequer, and half at the Michaelmas Exchequer; of which fifty pounds they shall pay twenty-eight pounds and ten shillings blank, which was the ancient rent; and the residue they shall pay in tale. And we will not that the sheriff or his bailiffs in anywise intermeddle with the aforesaid town or its appurtenances, or with the aforesaid rent, except those things which belong to the royal crown: wherefore we will and firmly command, That the aforesaid men of Kingeston, and their heirs, may have and hold in fee farm the aforesaid town of Kingeston, with all its appurtenances, for ever, well and peaceably, free and quietly, entirely, fully, and honourably in all places and things, with all the liberties and free customs belonging to it, as is above mentioned, as long as they shall well pay the aforesaid rent.

Witness Lord P. Bishop of Winchester,
Lord J. Bishop of Bath, William Earl of Devon-

Devonshire, William Brivoerr, Hugo de Nevill, Garin, the son of Gerola, William Malet, Thomas Bailet, Raif Gernun, Geoffrey Luterel.

Given under the hand of Hugo de Well, Archdeacon of Wells, at Tanton, the 23d day of September, in the tenth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Privilege from Arrests.

HENRY, by the Grace of God, King, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Count of ^{Anjou} ~~Andegavenny~~. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Counts, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed to our freemen of Kingston, that they and their heirs for ever, throughout all our land and power, may have this liberty; that is to say, that they or their goods found in any places whatsoever in our power, shall not be arrested

rested for any debt of which they are not the sureties or principal debtors, unless by chance those debtors be of their own community and power, having wherewith they are able, in the whole or in part, to make satisfaction, and our said freemen are wanting in justice to the creditors of the same debtors, and this shall reasonably be made to appear. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforesaid freemen of Kingston, and their heirs, may have the aforesaid liberty for ever throughout all our land and power as is aforesaid. And we forbid, upon the forfeiture to us of ten pounds, that any one of them be in anywise unjustly vexed, disturbed, or disquieted against the liberty aforesaid.

Witness Guy de Leziman, Geoffrey de Leziman, and William de Valentia, our brothers; John Maunfell, Provost of Beverley; Archibald de St^o. Romano, Walter de Merton, William de Grey, William de Hatintot, Barthol. Bygoe, and others.

Given under our hand at Westminster, the 10th day of December, in the fortieth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Grant of an Eight Days Fair.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Count of ^{Flouren} ~~Ande~~
~~gavenny~~. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed to our freemen of Kyngeston, that they and their heirs for ever may have a Fair every year, to continue during eight days, at Kyngeston; that is to say, on the morrow of All Souls, and during the seven following days, unless that fair should be to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforesaid freemen of Kyngeston, and their heirs for ever, may have a fair at Kyngeston every year, to continue during eight days; that is to say, on the morrow of All Souls, and during the seven following days; with all the liberties and free
 cus-

customs belonging to such like fairs, and that that fair should be to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs, as is aforefaid.

Witness Guy de Lérign, Geoffrey de Lérign, and William de Valentia, our brothers; John Mansell, Treasurer of York-shire; Robert Walerane, Geoffrey de Geynvill, William de Grey, Walter de Merton, Master John Mansell, Imbto Pugeys, William de S^{ra}. Ermina, and others.

Given under our hand at Westminster, the 12th day of September, in the fortieth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Grant of the Return of Writs, &c.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Count of ^{Angou-}~~Ande-~~
~~gavenny~~. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed, for us and our heirs,

heirs, to our freemen of Kyngeston, that they and their heirs for ever may have the return of our writs from the summonses of our Exchequer, and all other our writs touching their town, so that no sheriff, or other our bailiff or minister, may enter the town aforesaid to make distresses or summonses, or any other things, unless through default of the same men or their heirs. We have also granted to the same men, that they and their heirs (men of the same town) may choose from themselves and create coroners to make attachment of the pleas of our crown, arising within our town aforesaid, and answer before our justices itinerant in those parts of the attachments made by them, and other things pertaining to the office of coroner, as other our coroners ought and are wont to answer; and that the aforesaid men, without our precept, be not impleaded or compelled to plead without their town, of any their tenements or chattels which they have within their town, or of any other pleas except trespasses, if it shall happen that any have been committed by them against us or our heirs. We have also granted to the same men of Kyngeston, that

that they may have their guild-merchant in their town, as they formerly had it, and as our men of Guildford had ; and that they may use it together with their other liberties and just laws and customs which they have in their town aforesaid, as they have used it in our time, and in the times of our predecessors, Kings of England : And that the same men, for the trespass or forfeiture of their servants, shall not lose their chattels or goods found in their hands, or put to any other place by those servants, as far as they shall be able sufficiently to prove that they are their own : And also, if the said men, or any of them, shall die testate or intestate within our land and power, we nor our heirs will not cause their goods to be confiscated : but their heirs may have them entirely, as far as it appears that the said chattels belonged to the said deceased. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforesaid freemen of Kyngeston, and their heirs for ever, may have all the liberties and freedoms aforesaid ; and that they may use them henceforth for ever, freely and without the hindrance of any one, as is aforesaid.

said. And we forbid, upon the forfeiture to us of ten pounds, that no one presume to vex, molest, or disquiet them against the before written grants and liberties.

Witness Guy de Lérign, Geoffrey de Lérign, and William de Valentia, our brothers ; John Maunsell, Treasurer of York ; Archibald de S^{to}. Romano, Robt. Walerane, Will. de Grey, Walter de Merton, Imbto Pugeys, Will. Bonquer, Will. de S^{ta}. Ermina, and others.

Given under our hand at Westminster, the 13th day of September, in the fortieth year of our reign.

This last charter is confirmed by another of Edward the Third, dated the 31st day of January, in the 16th year of his reign over England, and third over France.

King Richard II. by a charter dated the 2d of April, in the first year of his reign, also confirms the above charter of King John, and the charter of King Edward III. for the return of writs.

CHARTER OF RICHARD II.

*Grant of a Shop and Eight Acres of Land,
in aid of the Payment of the fee-farm
Rent of the Town.*

RICHARD, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Know ye That we, of our special favour, have granted for us and our heirs as much as in us is to our beloved freemen of our town of Kyngeston upon Thames, which town aforesaid they hold of us for a certain fee-farm of fifty-four pounds eight shillings and sixpence, paid yearly to our Exchequer; as they say, a shop and eight acres of land, with the appurtenances in the town aforesaid, which belonged to Robert Hegge-man, who held them of us (and which shop and land came to our hands as our escheat, as we have taken it because the aforesaid Robert died without an heir): to have and to hold to the said freemen and their successors of us and our heirs, by the services therefore due and accustomed

tomed in the time of the aforesaid Robert, in aid of the payment of their aforesaid rent for ever, without any thing to be paid to us or our heirs for the shop and land aforesaid, beyond the said fee farm

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, the 20th day of May, in the fourth year of our reign.
By Writ of Privy Seal.

Henry IV. by a charter dated the 29th day of May, in the first year of his reign, confirms the above charter of King John, and the charter of King Edward III. for the return of writs.

Exemplification of a Trial in the Exchequer with the Sheriff of the County, Whether the Freemen of Kingston ought to pay Knights Fees? — Adjudged they ought not.

8 HEN. IV.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland.

To

To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected a certain plea of the term of St. Michael, in the second year of the reign of King Richard the Second, after the Conquest, in these words: *ſs.* Pleas before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster, of the term of St. Michael, in the second year of King Richard the Second, after the Conquest, *ſs.* Surry *ſs.* Robert Campe, Bailiff of the liberty of the Archbishop of Canterbury, of Croydon, and Thomas Carpenter, Bailiff of the liberty of Kyngeston and Emelbrigg, were attached, being here now on the octave of St. Martin, to answer the King and William Percy, sheriff of the county of Surry. Wherefore when the Lord King, by his writ of the Chancery, commanded the aforesaid William Percy that he should cause to have of the men of the county aforesaid to Nicholas Carren and John Kyngesfold, late Knights elected to the parliament held at Westminster, in the first year of his reign, for the commonalty of the county aforesaid, a certain sum of money for their expences, to be levied of the men of the same town, as well within the liberties as out, the said William Percy
says,

says, that although he made divers precepts to the aforesaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter for the portions belonging to the several men of their bailiwick for the expences aforesaid; that is to say, to the aforesaid Robert Campe for twenty-three shillings for his portion; and to the aforesaid Thomas Carpenter, for four marks for his portion, at the county-court, held on Wednesday next, before the feast of Epiphany in the same year of the Lord at Gildesford, he delivered to be levied; yet the aforesaid Robert and Thomas have refused, and still do refuse, to return their precepts aforesaid, or levy the sums aforesaid to the aforesaid William Percy, through which the same William paid the expences of the same Knights to the aforesaid Knights at Gildesford, the same year, on account of the default of the aforesaid bailiffs, in contempt of the King. Wherefore the aforesaid William Percy is impoverished, and has a loss to the value of twenty pounds, and therefore he produces suit, &c. And the aforesaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter came at the octave aforesaid, by Robert Carpenter their attorney, and defend the

lofs and whatfoever, &c. And they fay that the expences aforefaid ought not to be levied in any manner, although the expences of Knights coming to the parliament of the King for the commonalty of the county aforefaid have been levied, and before thefe times, have been accuftomed to be levied. And they fay that it has never been the cuftom to levy any fums within the liberties aforefaid for the expences of fuch like Knights coming to parliament. And this they are ready to verify; and they ask judgment if any injury can be affigned againft their perfons for that reafon. And the aforefaid William Percy fays, that Knights were lately elected in the full county-court by all the commonalty of the county aforefaid, as well for thofe within the liberties as out; by which all men dwelling within the aforefaid county, as well within the liberties as out, are held by right to contribute to the payment of their expences; and from which the aforefaid late Knights were elected by the commonalty aforefaid, as, &c. And they do not deny but their bailiwicks were affeffed feparately in the full county-court, as is above declared.

And

And the aforeſaid bailiffs allege nothing elſe for themſelves unleſs this, that it has not been the cuſtom before theſe times for any ſums to be levied for the expences of Knights within the liberties aforeſaid. The ſaid William Percy aſks judgment, &c. and that the aforeſaid bailiffs may pay their portions aforeſaid: and the aforeſaid bailiffs ſay as before, and aſk judgment likewiſe. Therefore to judgment. And upon this a day was given to the parties aforeſaid, from the day of St. Hilary, in forty days to hear their judgment aforeſaid: at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and have a day farther until the fifteenth of Eaſter; at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and have a day further until the fifteenth of the holy Trinity; at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and aſk their judgment, &c. and having ſeen that proceſs among the Barons, becauſe the aforeſaid William Percy by the laſt pleading does not deny this, that he was not accuſtomed before theſe times to levy any ſums for the expences of Knights coming to the parliaments of the King within the liberties aforeſaid. Therefore it was conſidered that the afore-

said William Percy should take nothing for his complaint aforesaid; and that the aforesaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter, bailiffs of the liberties aforesaid, should be in the premises *sine die*. Now we have caused the plea aforesaid to be exemplified by these presents, at the requisition of John Pierg and John Lorthoim, now bailiffs of the liberties aforesaid.

In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness, I. Cokayn.

At Westminster, the 1st day of March, in the eighth year of our reign. Hunt.

CHARTER OF HENRY V.

Confirmation of former Charters, and a Release of Twenty-four Pounds annually, being Part of the Feefarm Rent.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting. (It then recites

recites the charter of King John, of King Henry III. for the return of writs, &c. for the protection of goods and persons, &c. for the eight days fair; all which it confirms, and then proceeds as follows) Moreover, willing to favour the said freemen in this behalf of our bountiful special favour, we have granted for us and our heirs, and by this our charter confirm to the same freemen of the town of Kyngeston aforeaid, that although they or their antecessors or predecessors shall not hitherto have fully used any one or any of the gifts, grants, confirmations, liberties, and acquittances aforeaid, or any others in the aforeaid charters and letters contained in any case happening, yet the same freemen, and their heirs and successors, shall fully enjoy and use them, and every of them, from henceforth for ever, without the hindrance or impediment of us or our heirs, or of the justices, escheators, sheriffs, or other bailiffs or servants of us or our said heirs whomsoever. And further, of our bountiful favour, we have granted to the aforeaid freemen of the said town of Kyngeston, and their heirs and successors, the town aforeaid, with

all the liberties and freedoms and other things abovementioned before, yielding to us and our heirs aforeſaid, by the year, at the terms of Eaſter and St. Michael, *twenty and ſix pounds* only of the aforeſaid ſum of fifty pounds. And moreover we have pardoned, releaſed and quit-claimed for us and our ſaid heirs to the aforeſaid freemen, their heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, *twenty and four pounds* yearly reſidue of the aforeſaid ſum of fifty pounds, and have held them exonerated for ever by theſe preſents from the ſaid twenty-four pounds yearly. Witneſs the venerable fathers, Th. Archbiſhop of Canterbury, Primate of All England, our couſin ; H. Biſhop of Wincheſter, our very dear uncle ; our Chancellor, Th. Biſhop of Durham ; N. Biſhop of Bath and Wells ; and H. Biſhop of St. David ; our very dear couſins Thoſ. Earl of Arundell, our Treafurer, and Ric. Earl of Warwick ; Henry Ffitzhugh, our Chamberlain ; and Tho. de Erpyngham, Steward of our Houſehold ; Maſter John Prophetes, keeper of our great ſeal, and others.

Given under our hand at Weſtminſter,
the

the 21st day of November, in the first year of our reign,

By the King himself, and by writ of Privy Seal. Gauntede.

24 HENRY VI.

Exemplification of a Certificate from the Chamberlain of the Exchequer out of the Doomesday Book, that the Demesne of Kingston and Elmbridge is of the ancient Demesne of the Crown.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected a certain certificate sent to us in our Chancery, by our Treasurer and Chamberlain, by our command, in these words: Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to his Treasurer and Chamberlain, greeting. We, willing for certain reasons to be sure if the demesne of Chingestune and Amelebrige, in the county of Surry, be

of the ancient demesne of the Crown of our realm of England, command you that, having searched our book of Domesday, which is in our treasury, under your custody, as it is called, ye acquaint us in our Chancery, under the seal of our Exchequer, distinctly and openly without delay, of what ye shall find therein, and send us back this writ. Witness myself at Westminster, the 8th day of July, in the 24th year of our reign. But what we find in the book of Domesday, touching the demesne of Chingestune and Amelebrige in the county of Surry, we send you in the schedule fastened to this writ. In the book of Domesday, under the title of the King's Land, in the county of Surry, among other things, is contained thus: the King holds Chingestune in demesne by the rent that was King Edward's, who then defended it by thirty-nine hides*;

* A hide of land, or a ploughland, which is the same, in an old manuscript, is said to be one hundred and twenty acres. Sir Edward Coke holds, that it does not define any certain number of acres. According to Shene, it contains as great a portion of land as may be tilled and laboured by one plough in a year and day.

now it is accounted as nothing of thirty-two ploughlands in demefne; there are two ploughlands and a quarter of twenty, and fix villains and fourteen borderirs †, with twenty-five ploughlands; there is a church there and two bondmen and five mills of twenty fhillings, and two fisheries of ten fhillings, and a third fishery extremely good; but without account there are forty acres of meadow, woods for fix pochers in the time of King Edward, and afterwards; and now valued at thirty pounds. Of the villains of this town, Humphry the Chamberlain had and still hath one villain in custody for combing the Queen's wool; of him also he accepted twenty fhillings for a relief when his father was dead. In Ainelebrige, Alda, a

† Borderers or Bordmen, Bordarii, were a species of bondmen or servile tenants, differing in some degree from the Servi and Villani. Dicuntur Bordarii vel quod in tugurüs (quæ cottagia vocant) habitabant, seu villarum limitibus, quasi Borderers. *Spelm.* They seem to have derived their name from the Saxon word *bord*, a house; and were of a less servile condition than the Servi or Villani, having a *bord* or cottage, with a small parcel of land allowed them, on condition of supplying their lord with certain provisions for his board or table.

certain

certain woman, holds of the King one *fallow ground* of the value of three shillings. Now we have caused the tenor of the certificate afore said to be exemplified by these presents, at the request of the men and tenants of Kyngelston upon Thames and Amelebrige. In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, ‡ the 17th day of July, in the twenty-fourth year of our reign. Brigge.

Henry VI. by a charter dated the 2nd day of February, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, granted to the bailiffs of Kingston the custody of the bridge and a toll, for divers goods and merchandizes coming through or under the same to the town of Kingston, for the space of fifty-one years, towards the repair and maintenance of the said bridge.

‡ The original of this is missing.

There is also a protection granted by one of the Henrys, in a charter dated the 14th of January, in the first of his reign, to the freemen of Kingston, their persons, goods, and estates for one year.

CHARTER OF EDWARD IV.

*Confirmation of former Charters, and Grant
of new Privileges.*

EDWARD, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Provosts, Ministers, and all Bailiffs and faithful subjects, greeting.

Whereas John, lately King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent, bearing date the 23d day of September, in the tenth year of his reign, granted to his freemen of Kyngeſton, his town of Kyngeſton, with all its appurtenances in feeſfarm, to have and to hold to them and their heirs, of him the late King, and his heirs, in their
own

own hands for ever entirely, together with all the liberties and free customs which the said town was accustomed and ought to have at the time when it was in the hand of the late King, paying therefore at his exchequer by their hand, yearly, fifty pounds of silver; that is to say, half at the Easter exchequer, and half at the Michaelmas exchequer; of which fifty pounds, they were to pay twenty-eight pounds and ten shillings blank, which was the old rent; and the residue they were to pay in tale: and the said late King willed that neither the sheriff nor his bailiffs should in anywise intermeddle with the afore said town or its appurtenances, or the afore said rent, excepting those matters which related to the Royal Crown. Wherefore the said late King willed and firmly commanded, that the said freemen of Kyngeston, and their heirs, should have and hold in fee farm the afore said town of Kyngeston, with all its appurtenances for ever, well, peaceably, freely, quietly, entirely, fully, and honourably in all places and things, with all their liberties and free customs belonging to the same, as in those letters are more fully contained.

And

And whereas also Lord Henry III. lately King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent, bearing date the 3d day of September, in the fortieth year of his reign, granted and confirmed, for himself and his heirs, to his freemen of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, that they and their heirs ſhould for ever have the return of his writs from the ſummons of his exchequer, and all other writs touching their town, ſo that no ſheriff or other bailiff, or his ſervant, ſhould enter the aforeſaid town to diſtrain, ſummons, or do any thing elſe but for default of the ſame men or their heirs. And the ſaid late King granted to the ſaid men, that they and their heirs, being men of the ſaid town, ſhould chuſe from themſelves, and create coroners to hold pleas of the crown, ariſing and to be within the ſaid town, and ſhould answer before his juſtices itinerant in thoſe parts of the attachments made by them, and of other matters belonging to the office of coroner, as his other coroners were accuſtomed and of right ought to answer. And that the aforeſaid men, without the command of the late King Henry, ſhould not implead or be compelled to plead without their town,

town, of any of their tenements or chattels which they had within their town, or of any other pleas, except of trespasss, if any had been committed by them against the late King Henry or his heirs. He also granted to the same men of Kyngeston, that they should have their gild-merchant in their town, and in the same manner as the late King's freemen of Guildford had; and that they should enjoy it, together with all the liberties and just laws and customs which they had in their aforesaid town, in the same manner as they had been accustomed in the time of the said late King Henry, and in the times of his predecessors, Kings of England; and that the said freemen, for the trespassses or forfeitures of their servants, should not lose their goods and chattels found in their hands, or placed by those servants anywhere else, so far as they could make out sufficient proof of their being their own property. And also, if the said men, or any of them, should die testate or intestate within the dominions and power of the said late King Henry, he the said late King Henry, nor his heirs, would not confiscate their effects; but their kins should have

have entire possession of them, as far as it should appear that they were the very chattels of those who were deceased; yet so as there be sufficient knowledge or surety of the said heirs. Wherefore the said Lord Henry the late King, willed and firmly commanded, for himself and his heirs, that his said freemen of Kyngeston, and their heirs, should for ever have all the liberties and freedoms aforesaid, and that they should use them freely and without the hindrance of any one for ever thenceforth, as is aforesaid, and in those letters patent is more fully contained.

And whereas Henry V. lately King of England, in fact, and not by right, by his letters patent, dated the * 1st day of March, in the eighth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforesaid freemen of the said town of Kyngeston, and their heirs and successors, the said town, together with all the aforesaid liberties and freedoms for ever, paying to him the

* The date of this charter is incorrectly recited: it should be the 21st day of November, in the first year of his reign.

late King and his heirs, at the yearly terms of Easter and Michaelmas, twenty-six pounds only of the aforefaid fum of forty pounds : and moreover he pardoned, releafed, and quit-claimed for himfelf the late King and his faid heirs to the aforefaid freemen, their heirs and fucceffors for ever, the annual twenty-four pounds residue of the aforefaid fum of fifty pounds ; and held them exonerated from the faid annual twenty-four pounds, as in thofe letters is more fully contained.

And whereas, moreover, Henry VI. lately King of England, in fact and not of right, by his * letters patent, dated the 18th day of March, in the nineteenth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforefaid freemen, their heirs and fucceffors, that the clerk of his market from thenceforth fhould not follow or exercife, or caufe to be purfued, followed, or exercifed in any mode, his office within the faid town of Kyngefton, or the liberty of the fame town, but that the fame freemen of the fame town, and

* This charter, I fuppofe, is loft, as it is not to be found among the others.

their successors should have the correction of the assize of bread and beer to be made or done within the aforesaid town, and the liberty of the same. And also that they should have the occupation and exercise of all other things in anywise touching the office of the clerk of the market, together with the fines, issues, and amerciaiments, as fully as the town of Wycombe and Wyndesore, or any other borough within the kingdom of England at that time had, as in those letters is more fully contained. Now we all the gifts, grants, liberties, franchises, pardon, remission, quit-claim, and discharge aforesaid, having ratified, and freely the same for ourselves and our heirs do accept, ratify, approve, and confirm as far as is in our power, and grant and confirm them to the aforesaid men and their heirs. And although they or their progenitors or predecessors should not as yet have fully enjoyed or abused any of the gifts, grants, or confirmations of liberties and freedoms, or any thing else contained in the said letters and charters, yet the said freemen, and their heirs and succes-

fors, shall enjoy and use the same and every part thereof, from thenceforth fully for ever, without the hindrance or impediment of us or our heirs. And further: Whereas the said men were accustomed and their progenitors and predecessors, by virtue of the said letters or charter of the said King John, our progenitor, from the time of the making the same letters patent, had and were accustomed to have and enjoy within the said town, and the liberty of the same, a certain court on every Saturday, before the bailiffs and steward of the aforesaid town for the time being, to be held in the said town, and power of hearing and determining all pleas of debt, covenant, account, trespass, and other contracts and personal matters, of whatsoever sort, supported or defended by plaint in that court in such like pleas by their attachment and arrest of their bodies on account of their insufficiency by the like determination, process, and decrees, and execution of the judges, by whom actions of this sort at common law are accustomed to be determined and settled;

and

and also had within the town and liberty aforesaid, the demesne of the said town and hundred of * Kyngeston and Emelbrigge, which (from time whereof the memory of man is not) have been appertaining to the said town all kinds of escheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treasure, trove, deodands, goods and chattels called Maynour, chattels of felons, felons of themselves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, or banished; waifs, and persons put in exigent for felony, year, day, waste, and estrepement; and also all issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, and punishments of all men residing and not residing within the town and liberty, demesne, and hundred aforesaid, before the steward and marshal of the household of us, our progenitors, and predecessors, and before the

* Kingston Hundred contains Kingston, East Molesey, Long Ditton, Malden, Petersham, Richmond, and Talworth.

Emellrigge, or Emley Hundred, contains Cobham, Elther, Elther Waterville, East and West Molesey, Oatlands, Stoke, Dalborn, Walton, and Weybridge.

justices of us, our progenitor and predecessors assigned for the peace in the county of Surrie; and forfeitures for any offences, trespasses, or any other causes whatsoever within the town, liberty, demeane, and hundred arising or happening unto now lately, because the same men, through the means of some of the officers belonging to us and some of our predecessors in the county aforesaid, were hindered and interrupted from some of the same, and perplexed on account of the obscurity and ambiguity of the general words in the said grant of the said King John, our progenitor, specified to the no small loss and prejudice of those men; we considering how much the inhabitants of the aforesaid town of Kyngeston, by the payment of the feefarm of that town, and by the great violent inundations and overflow of the waters, lately suffered in that town, and other burthens oppressing the said town, are injured, deteriorated, and so much impoverished, that they cannot pay that rent to us and our heirs, and bear the other burthens which lie heavy on the said town; nor will in future be able,
unless

unless through our favour shewn them in this matter, as we have it from the information of those men. We, willing that those men and their successors should fully and quietly have, use, and enjoy all the premises, and that every such like ambiguity and obscurity of words and terms in the aforesaid grants contained should be entirely done out and made void, and further to act graciously with these men, of our special favour and certain knowledge, do give, grant, and confirm for ourselves and our heirs, by these presents, to the freemen of the town of Kyngeston aforesaid, that they be one body in deed and name, and one perpetual corporation of two bailiffs of that town, and the freemen of the same town; and that they have a perpetual succession, and that they and their successors, by the names of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the town of Kyngeston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, be named and called, and by those names implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, in all the courts of us and our heirs, and all others whatsoever. *And that*

the said bailiffs and freemen of that town and their successors, be persons fit and capable in the law to purchase lands and tenements to themselves and their successors, in fee and perpetuity ; *and* have a common seal to serve for the things and business touching and concerning those bailiffs and men.

And from time to time, for the wholesome regulation and government of that town, do make and ordain within that town ordinances and statutes. And further, we give, grant, and confirm, for us and our heirs, to the said bailiffs and men, their heirs and successors, that they shall have, within the town, liberty, demesne, and hundred aforesaid, and all parts of the same, all kinds of escheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, treasure, trove, deodands, and all and all kinds of goods and chattels, called Maynour, and the goods and chattels of all men entirely holding and not entirely holding, residing and not residing within the aforesaid town and demesne of Kyngeston and the hundred, and the parts and appurtenances of the same, felons, fugitives,

tives, felons of themselves, condemned, or for any cause convicted, attainted, outlawed, banished, waived, and put in exigent for felony; chattels confiscated and to be confiscated of all such like men holding, residing, and not residing; escapes of felons; also year, day, waste, and estrepement within the same town, its parts and appurtenances, and every thing which pertains or can pertain to us or our heirs, of such like year, day, waste, and estrepement, or of any others or other of the premises. And also all and all kinds of issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, punishments, and forfeitures of all such like men holding, residing, and not residing, or by any of them in the courts of us and our heirs, as well before the justices of us and our heirs assigned to keep the peace in the county of Surry, and to hear and determine all felonies and trespasses committed in that county, as before the other justices or commissioners whatsoever, of us and our heirs in that county, and before the steward and marshal of the household of us and our heirs, to be forfeited, lost, imposed, made, undergone, assessed, or taxed in any mode :

ſo that if any of the ſaid men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding, ſhall have committed any crime, or fled and would not ſtand in judgment, for which he ought to loſe life or limb, or goods and chattels, whereſoever juſtice ought to be done of him; or it ſhould happen that any one of ſuch like men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding, ſhould in the aforeſaid courts, or any of them, forfeit, loſe, make, or undergo iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, all the aforeſaid goods and chattels, eſcheats, forfeitures, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, ſhall belong to the ſaid bailiffs and men of the ſaid town of Kyngeton, and their ſucceſſors. And that it be permitted the ſaid bailiffs and men and their ſucceſſors, by themſelves and their ſervants, all ſuch like eſcheats, forfeitures, treasure, trove, deodands, goods, and chattels, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, to take, ſeize, levy, receive, and have for their own uſe, and to take poſſeſſion thereof, although ſuch like goods and chattels ſhould have been before taken,

taken, seized, or used by any of the officers or servants of us or our heirs, *to have to* the said bailiffs and men, and their successors, in aid of their aforesaid rent without the impeachment, disturbance, molestation, or impediment of us or our heirs, or the justices, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, or any other officers or servants of us and our heirs whatsoever. *And* moreover we give and grant to the said bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, that they may have and hold within the town of Kyngeston aforesaid, every week; that is to say, on the Saturday of every such week for ever, a court to be held before those bailiffs and their successors, and the steward of that town for the time being. And that in those courts those bailiffs and their successors, and the steward for the time being, may hear and determine by plaint to be levied in that court before them, all pleas and actions as well of debt, covenant, account, deceit, detinue, both of charters, writings, * muniments, goods,

* Muniments or Miniments, Scripta authentica, seu chartæ donationum et evidentiæ. Also the evidences or writings, whereby a person is enabled to defend the title of his estate.

and chattels, as of all other things, trespass as well by force and arms as otherwise done withornam, and other things to the contempt of us and our heirs ; and all contracts, matters, and personal things whatsoever within that town and liberty, and the members and appurtenances of the same, arising or happening, although they should reach or exceed the sum of forty shillings, according to the law and custom of our kingdom of England ; and to be defended in such like pleas and actions by their own attachment to be levied, and on account of the insufficiency of their goods and chattels, lands, and tenements, through which they might take their attachment or distress, to bring them by attachment and arrest of their bodies for a plea in that court, and hear all and every of those things according to the law and custom of our kingdom aforesaid ; and may end, discuss, and terminate them by the like processes, judgments, determinations, and executions of the judges, by which the decrees, pleas, and actions, in our courts are finished and determined.

We will also, and grant for us and our heirs, to the aforesaid bailiffs and their successors, that they may have one or two serjeants at mace within the town demesne, hundred, and parts aforesaid, to do and execute their business and commands.

And moreover, we will and grant to the aforesaid men, their heirs and successors, that none of the escheators* of us and our heirs in the aforesaid county, nor the steward nor marshal, nor the clerk of the market, of the household, of us, or of our heirs, shall in anywise enter to do, perform, or exercise any of their offices within the town demesne, hundred, and parts aforesaid, nor shall intermeddle therein; nor shall any of them intermeddle in any thing concerning or touching their office aforesaid, in any mode whatsoever, notwithstanding that express mention of the true annual value of the premises, or of any gifts or grants made from any of our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid men, their ancestors and predecessors, before these times, in

* Escheator was an officer appointed by the Lord Treasurer, who took cognizance of the escheats due to the King in the county whereof he was escheator, these

these presents be not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, or restriction to the contrary thereof, made, done, or provided notwithstanding, and without fine or fee in this behalf, to be taken or paid to our aid. Witnesses to these presents, the most venerable fathers, Th. Cardinal of Canterbury, Primate of All England; and Tho. of York, Primate of England; our Chancellor of England; Archbishops, the venerable fathers, John Bishop of Lincoln, Keeper of our Privy Seal; and Edward Bishop of Chichester; and our very dear sons and brothers, Richard Duke of York, Marshal of England; and Richard Duke of Gloucester, great Chamberlain and Constable of England; and our dear cousins, Henry Earl of Essex, our Treasurer of England; and Anthony Earl of Rymer, Chief Butler of England; and our beloved and faithful Thomas Stanley, of Stanley, Steward of our Household; and Will. Hastings of Hastings, our Chamberlain, knights and others.

Given under our hand at our Palace of Westminster, the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of our reign.

T. Wheeler.

Henry VII. by a charter, dated the 10th day of July, in the ninth year of his reign, confirms the charter of Edward IV.

Henry VIII. by a charter, dated the 12th day of March, in the first year of his reign, confirms the above charter of Henry VII.

34 HENRY VIII.

Exemplification of a Warrant to the Treasury, to deduct out of the Feefarm of the Town of Kingston, all such Sums of Money as were payable to the Bailiffs and Freemen of the said Town, out of any Manors, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments then come into the Possession of the Crown.

HENRY the Eighth. by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland,
King,

King, Defender of the Faith, and on earth the Supreme Head of the Church of England and Ireland. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected the inrolment of a certain warrant under our signet, and signed with our hand, in our Court of Augmentation of the revenues of our crown, of the term of St. Hilary, in the thirty-third year of our reign, inrolled in these words :

MEMORANDUM, That in the term of St. Hilary, that is to say, on the fourth day of February, in the thirty-third year of the reign of our Lord the King, now Henry the Eighth, the bailiffs and freemen of the royal town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, came into the Court of Augmentation of the revenues of the royal crown, and produced before the Chancellor and Council there, a certain warrant under the signet of our Lord the King, and signed with the hand of our Lord the King : And they demand it to be inrolled, and it is inrolled in these words :

“ HENRY the Eight, by the grace of God, King of Englonde and of France,
Defender

Defender of the feyth, Lorde of Irelande,
 and in erthe supme hedde of the church of
 Englonde. To the Chancello^r, Treasourer,
 Attorney, Solycito^r, Receyvours, and Au-
 ditors of oure Courte of Augmentacons of
 the revenues of oure crowne for the
 tyme beyng, and to all other officers and
 mynysters of the same courte, and to
 every of them, greatyng. Wheare our
 noble pgenitoure, King Henry the fyfte,
 by his lres patents bearyng date the fyrst
 day of Marche, in the eight yere of his
 reign, emongs other thyngs, graunted
 unto the freemen of oure towne of
 Kyngeston upon Theamys, in our countie
 of Surrey, and to their heyres and succeß-
 fours, the said towne of Kyngston upon
 Theamys, with all his lyberties and qui-
 tances for ever; yeldyng therefore yerely
 unto the same late Kyng, and to his heires,
twenty-six poundes sixe shylllyngs & eight-
*pence,** as by the same lres patents, emongs
 other

* This six shillings and eight-pence is clearly a
 mistake; and the charter of King Henry the Fifth is
 incorreßtly recited. The original seefarm of the
 town was 50*l.* as appears by the charter of King
 John; and this was lowered to 26*l.* by Henry the
 Fifth;

other things therein conteyned more playnly appeareth. And wheare also the late Kyng of famous memory, Kyng Henry the fixteth, one other of oure noble pge-nyours, by his lres patents, bearyng date the eightene day of Marche, in the nyne- tene yere of his reigne, emongs other thyngs dyd graunte for hym and his heires, to the freemen of the said towne of Kyngeston, that they shulde be one body in right and name, and one comy- naltie corporate for ev^l of two baylyffs of the seid towne, and the men of the same towne, and shulde have ppetuall successyon; and that they and their suc- cessours, by the names of baylyffs and free- men of the towne of Kyngeston upon Theamys, in the countye of Surrey afore- seid, shulde be callyd and nomynated, and by the same name myght impleade and be impleaded, answere and be answered in all man^r courtes of the said late Kyng

Fifth; but there is no mention anywhere made of any additional charge being imposed upon the town that I can meet with. And it appears by the exem- plification of Queen Elizabeth, that 26l. only was the amount of the seefarm with which the town then was justly charged.

Henry

Henry the sixteth, his heires and successeours, and of all other what soev^r. And that the seid baylyffes and freemen of the same towne, and their successeours, shulde be p^rsons able and of capacitye in the lawe to purchase lands and tents to them, and to their successeours, in fee for ev^r; and that they shulde have a comen, seale for thyngs and buiynes touchyng and concernyng the same baylyffs and freemen, as by the same l^rs patents, emongs other things therein conteyned, more playnly is shewed and may appeare. And wheare also the said baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeston, by their severall names before-seid, and their p^rdecessours, from and sythen the tyme of the seid late Kyng Henry the fyfth, and longe tyme before had and have used to have and enjoye certeyn rentys goyng owte yerely of dyvers manors, landys, tentis, and heredytaments in the seid counte of Surrey, towarde the yerely payment of the seid seeferme of twenty-sixe pounds *sixe shyl- lings and eight* pence, dyvers of whiche seid manors, lands, tentys, and heredytaments, whereof the seid severale yerely

rents were so goyng owt by the due course and order of oure lawes, are nowe of late lawfully come to oure hands and possession of estate in fee simple, by reason whereof the same severale rentys whiche before weare goyng owt of the seid manors, lendys, tentis, and heredytaments nowe come to oure handys and possession as is aforeseid, by the order of oure lawes be extyncte and determyned. We therefore, wylling that the seid baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeston aforeseid, their p^rdecessours and successors, be, nor hereafter shalbe in any wyse dampnyfied or hurted by occasyon or meanes of any of the said manours, landys, tentys, or heredytaments beyng come to oure hands as is aforeseid, or that hereafter shall come to oure hands or possession, whearof any of the said severale yerely rents or other yerely p^rsytt nowe be, or before this time were goyng owte or payable to the baylyffs and freemen of the seid towne of Kyngeston upon Theamys, wyle and comaunde you, and evy, of you, by thaucutorytie and warrant hereof, that ye do yerely defawlike, deducte, and allowe unto

unto the bailyffs and freemen of the said towne of Kyngelston for the tyme beyng, their p^rdecessours and successours, beyng accomptaunts, before you, or any of you, of or for the seid yearly rent or feeferme of twentye sixe poundys *sixe shyllyngs and eight pence*; all suche rents and yerely pffytts as be or were goyng owte or payable to the baylyffs and freemen of the seid towne of Kyngelston, for the tyme being, owt of any of the seid manors, lands, tents, or heredytaments, whiche by any man of meanes be come to oure hands or possession, or that hereafter shall come to oure handys or possession. And also that you do certyfy under our great seale of the same Courte of Augmentacons unto the Chancellor, Treasourer, and Barons of oure Elcheke at Westminster, the names and certentes of all suche of the said manors, landys, tents, and heredytaments now come to our hands and possession, whereof any rents or other yerely pffitts were or be goyng owt towarde the payment of the seid yerely feeferme of twentye sixe poundys *sixe shyllyngs and eight pence*; and the

1 2

day

day and yere of the comyng of the same manors, landys, tents, and heredytaments to our hands and possession, and the certentes of the same rents, for and to the intent that the p^rdecessours of the said nowe baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeston aforesaid, whiche nowe be and remayn accomptaunts in our said courte of the Eicheker for and concernyng our said ferme, and have not yet fully fynysht their accompts, and have their quietus est for the same, may be abayted, defalked, deducted, and alowed upon their said accomptes of and for suche rentes, and other yerely p^rfits, as were before goyng owte of any of the said manours, lands, tents, or heredytaments come to our possession as is aforesaid, and payable to the p^rdecessours of the said nowe baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeston upon Theamys for and towarde the payment of the said feeferme: And theis oure lres of warrant dormant remanyng with you in youre custody shalbe yerely to you and evy^l of youe, and suche as hereafter shale succede you or any of you in youre office or offices, a
sufficient

sufficient warrant and discharge ageynst us, oure heires and successours for ev in that behalf.

Yoven under oure signet at oure manor of Grenewiche, the 28th day of December, in the thirty-third yere of oure reigne.

Now we have caused the tenor of the inrollment of the warrant afs^d. to be exemplified by these presents.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness Rich^d. Ryche, Knt.

At Westminster, the 29th day of June, in the 34th year of our reign.* Duke.

* The following are the Rents contained in the Certificate alluded to in the above Exemplification, and claimed by the Town of Kingston.

A yearly quit-rent, issuing out of the manor of <i>Ymber</i> , otherwise <i>Ymworth</i>	-	3	18	8
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Do. paid out of the manor of <i>Elevgate</i> , belonging to the late monastery of Westminster	-	-	-	0	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Do. going out of the manor of <i>Mulsey Malham</i> , belonging to Corpus Christi college, in Oxford, and purchased by King Henry of the masters of the same college	0	8	0
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Do. paid yearly out of the manor of <i>Burwell</i> , belonging to the late priory of Marton	-	-	-	0	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Carr. forw. £ 4 14 8

Brought forw. £ 4 14 8

Do. paid yearly out of the manors of
Canbury and *Hatch*, belonging to the said
 priory of Marton - - - 0 15 0

Do. paid yearly out of certain lands
 lying at the *Hoke*, belonging to the said
 priory of Marton - - - 0 0 6

Do. paid yearly out of the manor of *Efte*
Mulfey, belonging to the said priory of
 Marton, and purchased by King Henry
 the Eighth of the priory and convent of
 the same house - - - 0 15 0

Do. paid yearly out of a water-mill and
 certain lands belonging to the same, lying
 in Kingston, and belonging to the priory
 of Hownesflowe - - - 0 16 0

Do. paid yearly out of *certaine londes*
 lying in Kingston, and belonging to the
 Charterhouse in London - - - 1 16 0

Do. paid yearly out of certain londes
 lying in *Long Dytton*, belonging to the late
 hospital of our Ladye Without Byshopef-
 gate, London - - - 0 13 2

Do. paid yearly out of certain londes,
 parcel of the manor of *Sondon*, belonging
 to the late priory of Seynt Thomas's Hoſ-
 pitall in Southewarke - - - 0 13 2

Do. paid yearly out of the manor of
 Hampton Court - - - 0 6 0

Do. for certain londe, belonging to the
 fee farm of Kingston, inclosed into the
 King's Park at Hampton Court, called the
 South Park - - - 0 10 0

£ 10 19 6

Edward VI. by a charter, dated at Greenwich, the 24th day of April, in the first year of his reign, confirms the charter of Henry VIII.

CHARTER OF PHILIP AND MARY.

Confirmation of former Charters — Grant of a Fair — and of a Fish Ware — with other Privileges.

PHILIP AND MARY, by the grace of God, King and Queen of England, France, Naples, Jerusalem, and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Princes of Spain and Sicily, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Milan, Burgundy and Brabant, Counts of Hapsburg, Flanders, and Tirol. To all to whom these our present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected the letters patent of confirmation of Lord Edward VI. lately King of England, the brother of our very dear Queen aforesaid, made in these words: Edward VI. &c. [The charter is here recited at length.] We, willing that those bailiffs and freemen, their heirs and successors, may fully and quietly have,

use, and enjoy all the premises of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed; and by these our letters patent, for us and the heirs and successors of our aforesaid Queen, as much as in us is, do give, grant, and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors for ever, all and all kinds of the ancient customs, liberties, privileges, franchises, jurisdictions, and pardons aforesaid, and all and every other the premises aforesaid, whatsoever in any charters or letters patent of any our progenitors aforesaid, of our Queen aforesaid, whomsoever formerly Kings of England before this given, granted, or confirmed to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their predecessors, by whatsoever name or names the same bailiffs and freemen, or their predecessors, or any one or any of them in the same letters patent, or any of them, are estimated, named, or called, or ought or have been used to be estimated, named, or called. And we accept, approve, and ratify all and singular those premises to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, by these presents,

as fully, freely, quietly, and entirely, as all and singular contained in the said charters or letters patent were expressed, recited, or declared in the same charters and letters patent. And farther: We will and grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, that the aforesaid gift, grant, and confirmation, name, title, and all and singular other the premises given and granted by the aforesaid Henry VI. late King of England, the progenitor of our said Queen, aforesaid, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, be not any prejudice, loss, or derogation of any liberties, franchises, acquittances, privileges, and customs, contained or specified in any charters or letters patents of any our progenitors of the aforesaid Queen, whomsoever to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their predecessors, by whatsoever names the said bailiffs and freemen, or their predecessors, or any of them, have been used to be called in times past; but that the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, may have and hold all and singular the liberties, franchises, customs, privileges, and acquittances, and other things whatsoever, as well contained and specified in the charters and letters

letters patent aforesaid, as other liberties, franchises, acquittances, privileges, and customs whatsoever, lawfully used or accustomed by the same bailiffs and freemen, or their predecessors, or any of them; and may enjoy and use the same in the same manner and form as the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, or any, or any one of them before these times had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, use, or enjoy them in any lawful manner, any thing, cause, or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. And further: We have granted for us and our heirs and successors of the aforesaid Queen, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, that the same bailiffs and their successors being about to go before justices of the peace of * laborers and † artificers, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, or before the steward and marshal of our household, or of the house-

* Justices of laborers, formerly appointed to superintend the behaviour of labouring men that either refused to work, or demanded unreasonable wages. — See stat. 21 Edward III. c. 1.—25 Edw. III. c. 8.—and 31 Edward III. c. 6.

† Justices of artificers, the same.

hold

hold of our heirs and successors of the
aforesaid Queen, the clerk of the market
of the same household, justices of oyer and
terminer, justices of assize and of gaol de-
livery in the county of Surry, or other
officers and ministers of us, our heirs and
successors of the aforesaid Queen whom-
soever, as well within the town aforesaid
as without the same town, be not forced,
held, or compelled in any manner against
their wills; but that they shall send the
serjeant or serjeants at mace of the said
town, to do and execute their precepts, or
any other their business before the afore-
said justices and other the aforesaid offi-
cers, from time to time, whensoever the
case and matter shall so require, to serve in
the room of the said bailiffs and their suc-
cessors. And because we have heard from
the insinuation of the aforesaid bailiffs
and freemen of the town aforesaid, who
now have two fairs or marts, by the grant
of our progenitors, that it would be more
useful and advantageous to the aforesaid
bailiffs and freemen, and all the inhabit-
ants of the town aforesaid, and of the
confinies and parts adjacent to the said
town, and also the public weal of the
same,

same, that the same bailiffs and freemen ought yearly to have three fairs within the town of Kyngeston; which bailiffs indeed, and freemen and inhabitants of the said town of Kyngeston, have humbly entreated us, that we would extend them our favour and munificence in this behalf. Know ye, therefore, that we, consenting to the wish and desire of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed, and by these presents, for us, and our heirs and successors of the aforesaid Queen, do give, grant, and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kyngeston aforesaid, and their successors, the said two fairs and marts to be held in Kyngeston aforesaid, at the days, years, and places there accustomed, with all the profits and advantages which pertain, or have been accustomed, to pertain to the fairs and marts of the same. And that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may have and hold, and may and may be able to have and hold the same two marts or fairs in as ample a manner and form, and with such like customs, profits, and advantages, as they and their

their predecessors have been accustomed to have and take, in or by the fairs or marts formerly held there in the town aforesaid, or ought to have and take by force, or reason of the letters patent aforesaid. And also, that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, may have and hold yearly in the town aforesaid, one other fair there, to last for two days, at the feast of St. Mary Magdalen; that is to say, on the day of the same feast, and the day next after the same feast; together with a court of piepowd at the time of the same fair, and also stallage *, picage †, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits and advantages whatsoever concerning, belonging to, happening, arising in, or touching such like fair and court of piepowd; and to be taken and converted with all the liberties and free customs pertaining or belonging to such like fair, to the proper aid, use, and utility of the said bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, and the

* Stallage, the liberty or right of pitching or erecting stalls or booths, or the money paid for the same.

† Picage, a payment of money for breaking the ground, in order to erect such stall or booth.

town aforesaid, for the time being; yet so that that fair or mart be not to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly command, for us, our heirs, and successors, that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, for ever may have and hold the aforesaid fairs at the town of Kyngeston aforesaid, with all the liberties, free customs, advantages, and profits, belonging to or concerning such like fairs or marts, without any thing thenceforth to be yielded, paid, or done in any manner to us, or our heirs and successors of the aforesaid Queen; yet so that those fairs be not to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs as is aforesaid. And farther: Know ye that we, upon the humble petition of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and for the maintenance and better support of the same town, and in consideration of the great burthens which the inhabitants of the same town daily sustain in and about the repair and maintenance of the great bridge of the same town, called the *Greate Bridge*, now being in great ruin and decay, and for other reasonable causes and considerations at present specially moving us

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of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, and our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, grant and give leave to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors may and may be able to build, ſet up, and erect a certain wear, called a *fiſh wear*, in the water of the Thames, near or next to the town aforeſaid. We have alſo granted to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, a ſpace of eighty poles in the aforeſaid water of the Thames, for the ſaid wear, called a *fiſh wear*, which the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, ſhall make, or cauſe to be made, to catch fiſh in the ſame; to have and to hold, as well the aforeſaid wear as the aforeſaid ſpace for the *fiſh wear*, to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, and leave and liberty to catch fiſh in the ſame *fiſh wear*, together with all the liberties, profits, and advantages, in any manner belonging to the ſaid wear for ever, without any account, or any thing elſe therefore, in any manner to be yielded, paid, or done to us, or our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen. Alſo
granting

granting to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, that they and their successors may, at their pleasure, raise, amend, and repair the aforesaid wear as often as it shall be needful or necessary; and may make a very great profit and advantage thereof. Willing that neither the said bailiffs or freemen, or their successors or assigns, be therefore charged with any payment, or molested or grieved in any thing; nor any one of them be charged with any payment, or molested or grieved in any thing by us, or our successors, or by the officers or ministers of us, or of our heirs and successors of the aforesaid Queen, provided always that the common way there, commonly called the *faire way* of the Thames, for boats, called Barges, and other vessels upon the said water of the Thames, passing and sailing through the aforesaid wear, shall not be hurt in any manner. We will also, and by these presents grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, that they may and shall have these our letters patent, under our great seal of England, duly made and sealed, without fine or fee, great or small, to us in our hanaper,
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or elfewhere, to our uſe therefore, in any manner to be yielded, paid, or made, although that expreſs mention of the true yearly value or certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any other gifts or grants by us, or by any of our progenitors to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen before theſe times made in theſe, preſents, is not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithstanding.

In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs ourſelves at Greenwich, the 25th day of March, in the ſecond and third years of our reigns.

By writ of privy ſeal, &c. Naylour.

Queen Elizabeth, by a charter, dated at Weſtmiſter, the 7th day of May, in the firſt year of her reign, confirms the above charter of Philip and Mary, and all others therein contained.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Exemption of the Freemen of Kingston (being Tenants in ancient Demesne) from paying Toll, or being summoned on Juries.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and singular justices, sheriffs, mayors, escheators, coroners, stewards, constables, ministers, and all other officers and faithful subjects, as well within the liberty as out, to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Whereas, according to the custom of our kingdom of England, hitherto obtained and approved of, the men and tenants of the ancient demesne of the crown of England, are and ought to be quit from the payment of toll throughout all our realm; and according to the custom aforesaid, the men and tenants of the ancient demesne of our crown aforesaid, have always hitherto, from time whereof the memory of man is not, been accustomed to be quit from contribution of the expence of knights

knights coming to the parliament of us, or our progenitors, formerly Kings of England, for the community of the same county. And also, according to the same custom, the men and tenants of the manors which are of the ancient demesne of the crown aforesaid, for their lands and tenements which they hold of the same demesne, ought not to be put upon any assizes, juries, or recognizances, unless only in those which ought to be made in the court of such manors; and for that, because the demesne of Kyngeston and Emley Bridge, otherwise Chingstune and Amelebrige, in our county of Surry, is of the ancient demesne of our crown of England, as by a certain certificate thereof sent to us in our chancery by the treasurer and chamberlain of our exchequer, by our command, is found, we enjoin and command you, and each of you, that you do permit all and singular the men and tenants of the demesne of *Kyngeston* and *Emleybridge*, otherwise *Chingstune* and *Amelebrige* aforesaid, to be quit from such like toll to be paid for their goods or things, throughout all our realm of England, aforesaid: and from the expence of

knights aforeſaid. And alſo, that you do not put the ſame men, and the tenants of the ſame manor, on any aſſizes, juries, or recognizances to be held without the court of the demeſne aforeſaid, unleſs only in thoſe things which ought to be done in the court of ſuch like manors, againſt the cuſtom abovementioned, unleſs they hold lands and tenements of another tenure, for which, according to the form of the ſtatute of the common council of our realm of England therefore provided, they ought to be put upon aſſizes, juries, or recognizances; and ye ſhall, without delay, releaſe to the ſame the diſtreſs, if ye have made any, of the beforementioned men and tenants of Kyngſton and Emleybridge, otherwiſe Chingſtunc and Amelebrige aforeſaid, on theſe occasions, or any of them.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 5th day of Auguſt, in the thirty-fourth year of our reign.

P. Gerrard.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

*Grant of a Free Grammar School to the Town
of Kingston.*

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these letters shall come, greeting.

Be it known that we, upon the humble petition of our beloved subjects the bailiffs and freemen, and inhabitants of our town of Kingston upon Thames, in our county of Surry, for a grammar school to be made and established within the parish of Kingston aforesaid, in our said county of Surry, for the education and instruction of boys and children, do, of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, grant and ordain for us and our heirs, that from henceforth there be and shall be one grammar school in the said town of Kingston upon Thames, which shall be called *the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth*, for the education, teaching, and instruction of boys and children in the

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A Grammar School is held to mean a School for instruction in the learned languages. (vid. in a Bedford Charity

grammar, for ever in future. And we erect, create, ordain, declare, and found by these presents, that school to consist of one master and one under-master, or usher, to continue for ever. And in order that our intention may be the better effected, and that the lands, tenements, rents, revenues, and other profits to be granted, assigned, and appointed for the maintenance of the aforesaid school, may ^{be} the better governed for their continuation, we will, grant, and ordain, for us and our heirs, that the two bailiffs of the town aforesaid, for the time being, shall be and be called *Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said school, commonly called and to be called the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry.* And therefore, know ye That we have assigned, elected, nominated, constituted, and declared, and by these presents assign, elect, nominate, constitute, and declare, that our beloved Wm. Matson and George Snelting, the now bailiffs of the town of ~~Kingston~~ Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, be and are the first and present governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said free gram-
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mar school of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, well and faithfully to exercise and fulfil the said office, from the date of these presents, as long as they shall happen to be in the office of bailiff of the town of Kingston aforesaid; and that the said governors, in fact and name, from henceforth be and shall be one body incorporated and politic for ever, incorporated and established by the name of *Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry*; and by these presents we incorporate them, William Matson and George Snelling, governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry; and really and fully create, erect, ordain, make, constitute, and declare them by these presents a body corporate and politic, by the same name to continue for ever. And we will, and by these presents grant, for ourselves and our heirs and successors, that the said governors of the possessions, revenues, and

goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, have a perpetual succession, and by the same name be and shall be persons fit and capable in the law to hold, receive, and purchase of us the chapel, houses, edifices, chambers, buildings, rents, reversions, possessions, revenues, and hereditaments underwritten and below specified, and other lands, tenements, possessions, revenues, and hereditaments whatsoever, of us or any other person or persons whatsoever. And be it known that we, wishing to carry our intention and purpose in this behalf into effect, have of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, given and granted, and by these presents do for ourselves, our heirs and successors, give and grant to the aforementioned present governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said Free Grammar School, all that our free chapel with the appurtenances, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel, in Norbiton, in Kingston upon Thames* aforesaid, in our said county of Surry; and one garden belonging to us, lying next the said chapel, on the east side of the said chapel;

chapel; and one other little chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*, with the appurtenances joining the free chapel aforesaid; and one chamber, covered with lead, over the said chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*; and one little study within the said chapel; also one other inner chamber, with one *Harkes Meece* over the same; and a certain little chapel, in the same place, called *Saint Loyes Chapel*, on the south side of the aforesaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel*; and one little place under the said chapel; and one old kitchen; and a certain chamber adjoining to the said kitchen; and one upper room, called a *loft* over the said kitchen and chamber; and one other chamber under the said kitchen, on the west side of the aforesaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel*, and situated over the footway leading from the town of Kingston aforesaid towards London; and one dwelling next the kitchen aforesaid; also one yard, on the north side of the aforesaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel*; and one other yard, on the west side of the said chapel; and one place for walking in, called a gallery, over the yard aforesaid, and leading from the chamber

over

over the aforesaid chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*, to a certain little place ; and two chambers, called the *masters lodging*; and one *cellar* and four *small chambers* under the *masters lodging* aforesaid ; and a certain end of a certain barn, with a partition at the west end, from an old barn in the same place ; and a certain stable, situated and being on the west end of the said barn ; and one dove-cote belonging to us ; and also free ingress and regress as well to the dove-cote, stable, and barn aforesaid, as also to all the other places belonging or appertaining to the aforesaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel* : All and singular which premises are situated, lying, and being in Norbiton, in the parish of Kingston aforesaid ; and all which premises our very dear brother Edward VI. lately King of England, by his letters patent, under his great seal, lately made for the care, augmentation, and revenue of his crown, dated at Westminster, the 26th day of April, in the first year of his reign, delivered, granted, and demised to rent, among other things, to Richard Taberner, Esq. his executors and assigns, for the term of twenty-one years, to commence
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at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel then next ensuing, paying annually to our said brother, his heirs and successors, for the same premises, and for other messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments in the said letters patent expressed and specified, twelve pounds and twelve pence of legal money of England, at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel; to be paid by equal portions, during the term aforesaid, as by those letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifest and appears. We also give, and for the consideration aforesaid, we grant for us, our heirs and successors, by these presents, to the aforesaid now governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said Free Grammar School, the reversion and reversions whatsoever of all and singular the premises, and every parcel thereof, and all that our annual rent of twenty-one shillings, part of the aforesaid annual rent of twelve pounds and twelve shillings, by the aforesaid letters patent of our said brother, reserved as aforesaid; and also the rents, reversions, and annual proceeds whatsoever, reserved upon any demises or grants

grants made of the premises, or any parcel thereof, in any manner, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any chaplain, priest, or incumbent of the said late free chapel, called Mary Magdalen Chapel, or any other or others hitherto having, possessing, or being seised of the premises, or any part thereof, ever had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, or enjoy the same, or any parcel thereof; and as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as all and singular those premises came or ought to come into our hands, or into the hands of our very dear father Henry VIII. lately King of England, or into the hands of our said brother Edward VI. lately King of England, or into the hands of our very dear sister Mary, lately Queen of England, by reason or pretext of any act of parliament, or any other mode, right, or title, and now are or ought to be in our hands: Which free chapel, chamber, barn, stable, and all others the premises, with their appurtenances, are now valued at the clear annual value of twenty-one shillings, to have, hold, and enjoy the aforesaid free chapel, and

and the aforeſaid rent of twenty-one ſhillings, and alſo the aforeſaid chapels, houſes, edifices, chambers, barn, ſtable, rents, reverſions, and ſervices, and all and ſingular other the premiles, with the appurtenances, to the aforeſaid preſent governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid Free Grammar School, and their ſucceſſors for ever; to hold of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as of our Honour of Hampton Court, in our county of Middleſex, by fealty only, in free ſoccage and not in chief, for all rents, ſervices, and demands whatſoever. And farther, of our abundant grace, we have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do give and grant to the aforeſaid governors, all the iſſues, rents, revenues, and profits of the aforeſaid chapel, and the reſt of the premiles, from the Feaſt of St. Michael the Archangel laſt paſt, to hold to the ſaid governors, as our gift, without any account or any thing elſe to be yielded, paid, or done thereout, in any manner, to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors. And farther: We will and grant for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid governors and their ſucceſſors, that they have for ever henceforth

forth a common seal to serve for their business aforesaid, expressed and specified in these letters patent, or only touching or concerning any part thereof; and that the same governors, by the name of the *Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston, in the county of Surry*, may plead and be impleaded, defend and be defended, answer and be answered, in any courts and places, and before any judges and justices in any causes, actions, cases, suits, complaints, pleas, and demands whatsoever, of whatsoever nature or condition they be. And farther: Of our abundant favour, we have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant for ourselves, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid present governors of the aforesaid school, and their successors, that they and their successors, with the advice of the Bishop of Winchester for the time being, shall have full power and authority of nominating and appointing the master and undermaster of the aforesaid school, as often as the places of the said master or undermaster of the said school shall become vacant; and that
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the ſame governors, with the advice of the Biſhop of Wincheſter aforeſaid, for the time being, ſhall make, and be able and competent to make, fit and ſalutary written ſtatutes and ordinances concerning and touching the ordering, governing, and direction of the maſter and undermaſter, and the ſchool aforeſaid, for the time being; and the ſtipend and ſalary of the ſaid maſter and undermaſter, and other things touching and concerning the ſaid ſchool; and the ordering, governing, preſervation, and diſpoſal of the rents and revenues appointed, and to be appointed, for the maintenance of the ſaid ſchool: Which ſtatutes and ordinances ſo to be made, we will and grant, and command by theſe preſents to be inviolably obſerved from time to time for ever. And be it further known, that, in conſideration that the ſaid governors and their ſucceſſors may be the better enabled to ſuſtain and ſupport the aforeſaid ſchool, and maſter and undermaſter thereof, of our abundant favour, we have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do give and grant to the aforeſaid governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid grammar ſchool, and their ſuc-

ſucceſſors, as much as in our power, ſpecial licence, free and lawful means, power and authority to have, receive, and purchaſe to them and their ſucceſſors for ever, as well of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as of any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, any manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, rectories, tythes, and other hereditaments whatſoever, within the kingdom of England, or elſewhere within our dominions, ſo that they do not exceed the clear annual value of thirty pounds, beſides the ſaid chapel, houſes, edifices, and the reſt of the premiſes, to the aforeſaid governors and their ſucceſſors, as by us is already ſhewn in the aforeſaid form of grant; the ſtatute of lands and tenements not to be put in mortmain, or any other ſtatute, act, ordinance, or proviſion, or any other cauſe or matter whatſoever, had, made, done, ordered, or provided to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithstanding, although expreſs mention of the true annual value, or of any other value or certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors to the aforeſaid preſent governors of the ſchool aforeſaid, made before theſe times, in theſe preſents, be
not

not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction made, done, ordained, or provided to the contrary thereof, or any other thing, cause, or matter in anywise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, the 11th day of March, in the third year of our reign. P. Condell.

18TH JUNE, FIFTH OF ELIZABETH.

Exemplification of a Release to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston, from the Payment of certain Sums with which they had been improperly charged.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting. We have inspected the great roll of the 5th and 6th years of Philip and Mary, late King and Queen, in the item, Suffex, where, among other things, is contained thus; that is to say, The men of Kingston owe four hundred and sixty-six pounds four shillings and sixpence, of a certain

rent of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence by the year, of the fee-farm of their town; that is to say, of the said rent of the 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th years of the late King Henry VIII; the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th of the late King Edward VI; and 1st and 2d of King Philip and Queen Mary, as is contained in the former item, Suffex. But they do not owe four hundred and forty pounds seven shillings and sixpence, which is of the said fee-farm of the 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th years of the late King Henry VIII; and the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th of the late King Edward VI. because it was enacted in the parliament of Lord Henry VIII. late King of England, father of our Lady the now Queen, began at Westminster the 28th day of April, in the said thirty-first year of the reign of the same late King, and continued in the same place until the 28th day of June in the same thirty-first year, concerning the Manor and Honour of Hampton Court, for certain causes and considerations in the same act declared, among other things, by the authority of the same parliament, That the whole fee-farm, annual rent, or

annuity of the borough or town of Kingston upon Thames, in the aforesaid county of Surry, should be from thenceforth for ever united, annexed to, called, reputed, and accepted to be parcel and member of the aforesaid Manor of Hampton Court; and that the same Manor of Hampton Court, together with the aforesaid fee-farm, annual rent, or annuity of the borough or town aforesaid, among other things, so united and annexed to the same Honour of Hampton Court at that time, should be named, called, and accepted the Honour of Hampton Court. And further, by the aforesaid act it was enacted, among other things, by the authority aforesaid, That the aforesaid Honour of Hampton Court, and the aforesaid annual fee-farm rent or annuity of the borough or town aforesaid, among other things, at that time should be in the order, survey, rule, and governance of the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, and should be granted, delivered, and demised to farm by the officers and servants of the same late court: And that all rents, issues, revenues, and profits arising and growing out of the premises, and every parcel thereof, should be taken and

received to the use of the King, by the ministers and officers of the same late court, any statute, act, ordinance, custom, or use had, made, or used to the contrary thereof notwithstanding, as in the said act is more fully contained. And by the process thereof had, and the grant of the Barons noted in the memorandums on the part of the Treasurer Remembrancer of the first year of our now Queen Elizabeth; that is to say, among the records in the rolls of Michaelmas term, where it is granted, that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen should be exonerated from the aforesaid fee-farm, exacted from them in form aforesaid; and from all and singular arrears due, and sums of money exacted from them, or for the same rent; that is to say, from the aforesaid time of the making the act above-mentioned, until the dissolution of the said late Court towards our said Lady the Queen, and be freed by virtue of the premises: And they ought not from henceforth to be burthened with the sum of fifty-seven shillings, which are parcel of the said fee-farm of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence of the first year of the late Queen

Queen Mary, and first and second of King Philip and Queen Mary; nor of twenty-eight shillings and sixpence, by the year, parcel of the said fee-farm of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence, from the time of the dissolution of the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, because the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid are not justly burthened with * twenty-eight shil-

* This serves in some degree to elucidate the mistake occasioned by the exemplification of a warrant to the Treasury in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of Henry VIII. where it states the fee-farm of the town to be 26l. 6s. 8d.; whereas in fact it was only 26l. as appears by the charter of Henry V. who lowered it to that sum. And by this present exemplification we find, that it was afterwards raised to 27l. 8s. 6d. but by what means, we are in the dark; only we know that it was *originally*, as this exemplification declares; and accordingly it releases 28s. 6d. which reduces it to the original sum of 26l. Mr. Lyons states, in his account of this place, that Queen Mary remitted a further part of this 26l.; but as he professes to have derived his information from a cartulary in the Town Clerk's Office, and as I have not been able to trace out any such charter of Queen Mary, we may fairly conclude him to have been deceived in this point, and particularly as a subsequent charter states it to be then 26l.

lings and sixpence yearly, parcel of the said fee farm of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence by the year, by the proceedings and grant of the Barons, noted in the same place, where it is granted That the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, should be exonerated by reason of the premises from the aforesaid twenty-eight shillings and sixpence, parcel of the said fee farm of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence yearly, from the time of the dissolution of the said late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown towards our said Lady the now Queen : And they do not owe the sum of fifty-two pounds, which are parcel of the said fee farm of twenty-seven pounds eight shillings and sixpence for the first year of Queen Mary, and first and second of King Philip and Queen Mary, because Robert Hamond, bailiff of the town of Kingston upon Thames, accounted for twenty-seven pounds thereof, beyond a certain sum of thirty pounds eight shillings and tenpence, as is contained in his account thereof in the roll of the accounts of the ministers, not ingrossed, of the first and
second

second year of the said King Philip and Queen Mary : And also, because Walter Walker, bailiff of the said town, accounted for twenty-six pounds residue, beyond a certain sum of thirty pounds eight shillings and tenpence, as is contained in his account thereof in the roll of the accounts of ministers, not ingrossed, of the second and third years of the said King and Queen. And they are freed, all and singular, which we have caused to be exemplified at the instance and request of our beloved and faithful subject William Matteison, yeoman.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness our very dear Cousin and Counsellor William Marquis of Winchester, our Treasurer of England.

At Westminster, the 18th Day of June, in the fifth year of our reign. Smyth.

And by the Barons.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Grant to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston of divers Lands, Tenements, and Rents, towards the Maintenance of the Free School.

ELIZABETH. by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen,
 H 4 Defender

Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Whereas we, upon the humble petition of our beloved subjects the Bailiffs and Freemen of our town of Kingston upon Thames, in our county of Surry, for a Grammar School to be erected and set up, within the parish of Kingston aforesaid, in our said county of Surry, for the instruction of Boys and Youths, by letters patent signed under our great seal of England, bearing date at Westminster, the first day of March, in the third year of our reign, willed, granted, and ordained, for us and our heirs, that there should be thenceforth in future a Grammar School in the said town of Kingston upon Thames, which shall be called The Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, for the Education, Institution, and Instruction of Boys and Youths in the Grammar, to continue in all future times. And we erected, created, ordained, declared, and founded by the same letters patent, that School of one Pedagogue or Master, and one Undermaster or Usher, to continue for ever; as by the same letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifest and appears.

pears. And whereas also, our very dear
 Father Henry the Eighth, late King of
 England, by a certain indenture, bearing
 date at Westminster, the 5th day of May,
 in the twenty-eighth year of his reign,
 made between himself the late King, on
 the one part; and Richard Taverner, of
 London, Esq. of the other part, delivered,
 granted, and to farm demised to the afore-
 said Richard Taverner, all those his mes-
 suages and tenements, with the appur-
 tenances following, situate, lying, and
 being in the town of Kingston upon
 Thames, in the county of Surry; that is
 to say, One inn, called the *George*, with
 one garden and a barn, situate and being
 in the *Back Lane* of Kingston aforesaid.
 near an old corn mill: And one close or
 croft of land, containing by estimation
 six acres, lying between *Hoggs Mill* on
 the eastern side, and parcel of lands, cal-
 led the *Bitton*, on the western side: And
 one acre of arable land, called the *Tenter*
Acre, lying in the common field of Kin-
 gston aforesaid, called *Tenter Field*; and
 eleven tenements, three gardens, and one
 barn, wherof one tenement is in Sur-
 pletton, with one barn and one pigstall,

con-

containing one acre of land; by estimation eighty acres of land, with the appurtenances belonging to the same: Another tenement, called the *Berebouse*, with an orchard and stable belonging to the same tenement: Another tenement, in which John Gage at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Standon at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which William Trewman at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which Alice Bekewythe, widow, at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which Henry Edington at time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Onam at that time dwelt, with ten acres of land belonging to the same: Another tenement, in which John Palmer at that time dwelt, with one small barn and one acre of land belonging to the same: Another tenement, in which Thomas Fyfte at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Chapman, barboure, at that time dwelt: One barn, at that time in the possession of John Jobson: Two gardens, or pightells, at that time in the possession of Agnes Smith: One garden, at that time in the tenure of Robert Webb: And one pightell, at that time

time in the possession of William Bonde ; except, however, and always entirely reserved to our said Father Henry the Eighth, his heirs and successors, all great trees and woods growing and being in and upon the premises, to have and to hold the aforesaid messuages, lands, tenements, and all other and singular the premises above expressed and specified, with their appurtenances, except as before excepted, to the before-mentioned Richard Taverner and his assigns, from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel at that time next to be, to the end and during the term of twenty-one years from thence next ensuing, and fully to be completed ; yielding therefore yearly to our said late Father Henry the Eighth, his heirs and successors, fourteen pounds of legal money of England, at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin and St. Michael the Archangel, or within one month after each of those Feasts, at the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, to be paid by equal portions during the term aforesaid, as by the same indenture made to the aforesaid Richard Taverner, as is aforesaid,

is

is more plainly manifest and appears. And moreover, whereas our very dear brother Edward VI. late King of England, by his letters patent, under his great seal of the late Court of Augmentation of the revenues of his crown, bearing date at Westminster, the 11th day of May, in the fourth year of his reign, delivered, granted, and demised to farm at that time to his beloved subject, John Good, one toft belonging to him, at that time lately built, called *Draggers*, containing by estimation half an acre; and also six acres of arable land belonging to him, and one rood of land belonging to the same toft; whereof three acres are lying and being in a certain field, called *Coombe Feild*, and divers parcels; and another acre thereof are lying and being in a field, called the *Little Feild*, in *Brokesfurlong*; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the same field, at the *Chappell Style*; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the same field, in three parts; and the aforesaid rood of land is lying and being in a certain field, called *Thyftlings Close*: all which, and singular last expressed premises, at that time were in the tenure or occupation of the said
John

John Good, and are situated, lying, and being in Kingston upon Thames, or elsewhere, in our said county of Surry; and were lately parcel of the possessions of the late priory of Marton, and at that time were parcel of his Honour of Hampton Court, in our county of Middlesex; except however, and always wholly reserved to our said late brother, his heirs and successors, all large trees and woods in and upon the premises, growing and being; to have and to hold the aforesaid lands, and all and singular other the premises last expressed and specified, with all their appurtenances, except as before excepted, to the aforesaid John Good, his executors and assigns, from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, at that time next to be, to the end, and during the term of twenty-one years from thence next ensuing, and fully to be completed: Yielding thence yearly to our said late brother, his heirs and successors, twenty-six shillings and eight-pence of lawful money of England, at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel, or within one month after each of these feasts, to be

be paid to the hands of the bailiffs or receivers of the premises for the time being, by equal portions during the term aforesaid, as by the same letters patent made to the same John Good, as is aforesaid, among other things likewise, is more plainly manifest, and appears the reversion and reversions of all and singular the premises and every parcel thereof lawfully belonging and pertaining to us. Know ye that we, of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, and also for the augmentation of the stipend and living of the pedagogue or master of the school aforesaid, for the time being, and on account of the better support, maintenance, and continuation of the said school, to be had for ever, according to the intention and ordinance expressed and declared in these letters patent, and according to the foundation of the same school, have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to the said bailiffs and freemen of our said town of Kingston upon Thames, in our said county of Surry, the reversion and reversions of all and singular the aforesaid messuages, lands, tenements,

tenements, and all and singular other the premises demised to the aforesaid Richard Taverner as aforesaid, and every parcel thereof, with the appurtenances; and the aforesaid yearly rent of fourteen pounds, for the same premises, reserved by the aforesaid indenture, made to the aforesaid Richard Taverner, as is beforementioned. And also, the reversion and reversions of all and singular the premises demised to farm to the abovementioned John Good, as is aforesaid, and every parcel thereof, with the appurtenances; and the aforesaid annual rent of twenty-six shillings and eight-pence, reserved by the aforesaid letters patent, made to the aforesaid John Good, as is beforementioned. And also, all that our messuage, tenement, and inn, called the *George*; with one garden and one barn, situated in the *Back Lane* of Kingston, near an old corn-mill there: And *one close* of land, containing by estimation six acres, lying between Hoggs Mill, on the east side, and parcel of the land, called *the Bitter*, on the west side: And one acre of arable land lying in the common field, called *Tenter-Field*: And also, all those *eleven tenements*,
three

three gardens, and one barn, with their appurtenances; whereof one tenement is situated in Surpleton, with one barn, and one pightell of land, containing by estimation one acre, and eighty acres of land belonging to the same: One other tenement, called the *Berehouse*, with an orchard and stable belonging to the same tenement: *One tenement*, now or lately in the tenure of John Gage: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Standon: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of William Trewman: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Alice Bekewythe, widow: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Henry Edington: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Onam, with ten acres of land belonging to the same: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Palmer, with one small barn, and one acre of land belonging to the same: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Fyfe: *One tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Chapman,

Chapman, Barber: *One larn*, in the tenure of John Jobson: *Two gardens, or pightells*, in the tenure of Agnes Smith: *One garden* in the tenure of Robert Webb: *And one pightell*, in the tenure of William Bond: And also, all that our annual quit-rent of thirty-six shillings, annually issuing and to be paid out of divers our lands and tenements in Kingston; all which and singular the premises last expressed, and before granted and demised to the aforesaid Richard Taverner, are lying and being in the parish of Kingston upon Thames, in our said county of Surry, and formerly were belonging and appertaining to the late demeine or priory of the Carthusian Monks of London, now dissolved, and were lately parcel of the possessions thereof: And also, all that our toft, lately built, called *Draggers*, containing by estimation half an acre: And also, *six acres* of our arable land, and *one rood* of our land belonging to the same toft, of which three acres of land thereof are lying and being in a certain field, called *Coombe-field*, in divers parcels; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the same field, in three parts; and the aforesaid rood of land is lying and being in a certain field.

called *Thislings Close* ; all which and singular the premises are now or lately were in the tenure or occupation of John Good, and are situated, lying, and being in Kingston upon Thames, or elsewhere, in our said county of Surry ; and were lately parcel of the possessions of the late priory of Marton, and now are parcel of our Honour of Hampton Court, in our said county of Middlesex : *And* also, all that our set rent of *four shillings*, annually issuing from the messuage or inn in Kingston aforesaid, called the *Crane*, now or lately in the tenure of Jacob Ware : *And* all that our rent of *eighteen-pence*, yearly issuing from a tenement in Kingston aforesaid, of a certain George Snellinge, senior, and now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Cooke : *And* all that our rent of *sixpence*, yearly issuing from lands of the late John Westbroke, lying in a certain close at *Gadbridge* next to *Berefeld*, within the parish of Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, senior : *And* all that our rent of *twenty-pence*, annually issuing from a tenement of the late William Collins, in Norbiton, within the said parish of Kingston aforesaid : *And* all that our rent

of *eight-pence*, yearly issuing from a tenement of Henry Grooer, in Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of William Whitfield : *And* all that our rent of *five shillings*, yearly issuing from two tenements in Kingston aforesaid, of a certain John Amo, of which one is an inn, and is called the *Ostridge Fethers* ; and the other is called the *Vyne* : *And* all that our rent of *eight shillings*, yearly issuing from a tenement in Kingston aforesaid, of a certain William Bayer, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Alice Elliot, widow : *And* all that our rent of *fifteen-pence*, yearly issuing from a tenement of the heirs of William Hawkins, in Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Henry Padbury : *And* also, all that our rent of *five shillings*, yearly issuing from a tenement in Kingston aforesaid, of a certain William Stevens, late of Cecilia Bolton, and now or lately in the tenure or occupation of the aforesaid William Stevens : *And* all that our rent of *twenty-pence*, yearly issuing from a tenement in Kingston aforesaid, of a certain *Thomas Benjon*, now or lately in the tenure of Adrian Johnson : *And* all that

our rent of *seven shillings*, yearly issuing from a tenement of the heirs of Augustin Skerne, in Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Robert Newens: *And* all that our rent of *three shillings*, yearly issuing from a tenement of a certain John Robinson, widower, in Kingston aforesaid, in the market-place there, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, junior: *And* all that our rent of *four shillings*, yearly issuing from a tenement now or late in the tenure or occupation of Agnes Sterr, widow, situate and being in Talworth, in the parish of Long Ditton, in the said county of Surry: *And also*, all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, senior, or his assigns: *And also*, all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingston aforesaid, late in the tenure or occupation of John Sepham: *And* all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingston aforesaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Robinson, widower: *And* all that our *cottage or tenement*, with the appurtenances, situate, lying,

lying and being in Kingston aforesaid, in a certain street there, called *Giggbill Strete*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of the said John Sepham, or his assigns; all which and singular last expressed premises were formerly belonging and appertaining to the late free chapel of the blessed Virgin Mary Magdalen, near Kingston upon Thames, in the said county of Surry, now dissolved, and were lately parcel of the possessions thereof: *And also*, all that our *tenement*, with the appurtenances, situated and being in *Ham* aforesaid, within the said parish of Kingston aforesaid: *And also*, all that our *arable land* belonging to the same tenement, containing by estimation *two acres*, whether more or less, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Sepham or his assigns, for a long time belonging and appertaining to the late monastery of Shene in our said county of Surry, now dissolved, and were lately parcel of the possessions thereof. *We also give*, and for the consideration aforesaid, grant by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of our said town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, all

and all manner of woods, underwoods, and trees whatsoever, belonging to us, growing and being out of, in, or upon the premises, or any parcel thereof: And also the reversion and reversions whatsoever of all and singular the premises, and every parcel of the same; And also the rents, revenues, and annual profits whatsoever, reserved upon any demises and grants of the premises, or any parcel thereof, in whatsoever manner made, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any former abbots, priors, chaplains, or other governors of the said late priories, chapels, or religious houses, or any other or others formerly having, possessing, or being seised of the premises, or any parcel thereof, ever had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, or enjoyed the same, or any parcel thereof; and as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as all and singular those premises came or ought to have come to our hands, or to the hands of our said very dear father, Henry VIII. late King of England; or to the hands of our very dear brother, Edward VI. late King of England; or to the hands of our very dear

dear sister Mary, late Queen of England,
 by reason or pretext of any act of parlia-
 ment, or by any other manner, right, or
 title, and now are or ought to be in our
 hands : *all* which messuages, lands, tene-
 ments, meadows, feedings, pastures, and
 all other the premises with the appurte-
 nances, are only valued at the clear an-
 nual rent of eighteen pounds nine
 shillings and seven-pence : to have, hold,
 and enjoy the aforesaid messuages, lands,
 tenements, houses, barns, stables, gardens,
 lands, woods, underwoods, rents, revenues,
 services, hereditaments, and all and other the
 premises, with all their appurtenances, to
 the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of our
 said town of Kingston upon Thames, and
 their successors for ever, according to the
 intention and ordinances by us expressed,
 specified, and declared in these our letters
 patent, to be held of us, our heirs and
 successors in fee-farm; that is to say, in free
 soccage as of our manor of East Greenwich,
 in our county of Kent ; and yielding
 therefore to us, our heirs and successors,
 eighteen pounds nine shillings and seven-
 pence of legal money of England, to the
 hands of the Receiver General of us, our
 heirs

heirs and successors of our said county of Surry for the time being, at the Feasts of St. Michael the Archangel, and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to be paid by equal portions every year for all other services, rents, and demands whatsoever to be yielded, paid, or done therefore in any manner to us, our heirs and successors. *And* farther, we declare and will and for us, our heirs and successors, by these presents, firmly ordain and determine, that, in consideration of our present grant, *twenty marks* * yearly of good and lawful money of England, do issue for ever and from time to time, beyond and besides the aforesaid rent of eighteen pounds nine shillings and seven-pence reserved to us, our heirs and successors, as aforesaid; and shall be paid, converted, and expended by the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of King-

* A mark of silver, in the reign of Henry I. was only six shillings and a penny in weight, but is now thirteen shillings and four-pence. There was also a mark of gold, which, according to Stow's Annals, weighed eight ounces, and was valued at six pounds in silver; or, as others write, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence,

tion upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors for the time being, for the support and maintenance of the school aforesaid, and of the master of the same school for the time being, at the four yearly terms; that is to say, at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, St. Michael the Archangel, the Birth-day of our Lord, and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by equal portions yearly, from time to time, for ever, although that express mention of the true yearly value, or of any other value or certainty of the premises, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingston aforesaid, before these times, made in these presents, is not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, the 17th
day

day of May, in the sixth year of our reign *.

By writ of privy seal, and of the date
aforesaid, by authority of parliament.

P. Cordett.

CHARTER OF KING JAMES I.

*Grant of divers Privileges, and a Weekly
Market every Saturday.*

JAMES, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Whereas our town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry, is a very

* Much of the premises granted by this charter have been converted into private property, and by some means or other made away with; and this is what the Magna Britannia alludes to in the following passage, where it says “the Free School at Kingston “ was erected by Queen Elizabeth, who well endowed “ it with good annual rents; but they are so much “ impaired and embezzled, that there is no more remaining than thirty pounds per annum.”

ancient

ancient and populous town : And whereas also Lord Edward IV. late King of England, by his letters patent under the great seal of England, dated the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of his reign, of his special favour and certain knowledge, granted and confirmed for himself and his heirs to the freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, that they should be one body in deed and name, and one perpetual community, incorporated of two bailiffs of that town and the men of the same town; and that they should have a perpetual succession; and that they and their successors should be called and named by the names of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames, in the County of Surry; and by those names might plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, in whatsoever courts of him or his heirs, or any others whomsoever. And that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of that town, and their successors, should be persons fit and capable in law to purchase lands and tenements to themselves and their heirs in fee and perpetuity, and should have a common seal to serve for the business and
affairs

affairs touching and concerning those bailiffs and men; and from time to time may make and ordain ordinances and statutes within the same town, for the wholesome rule and governance of that town. And moreover he, the late King Edward IV. granted and confirmed by the same letters patent, to the same bailiffs and men, and their successors, that they might have and hold within the town of Kingston aforesaid, every week, that is to say, on the Saturday of every such week for ever, a court to be holden before those bailiffs and their successors, and the steward of that town for the time being; and that in the same courts those bailiffs and their successors, and the steward for the time being, may hear and determine before them all manner of pleas and actions, both of debt, covenant, account, deceit, detinue, as well of charters, writings, muniments, goods and chattels, as of other things whatsoever, trespasses both by force and arms, as otherwise done withernam, and other things to the contempt of the aforesaid King and his heirs, and of the statutes; and of all personal contracts, matters, and things whatsoever arising

arising or happening within that town and the liberties, members, and appurtenances of the same, although they should reach or exceed the sum of forty shillings, by plaint, to be brought in that court, according to the law and custom of the kingdom of England, and defend in such like pleas and actions, the distressed by their attachment; and, on account of the insufficiency of goods and chattels by which they may be summoned, attached, or distrained, to bring them by attachment and arrest of their bodies to plead in that court; and may hear all and singular those things according to the law and custom of our realm aforesaid, and discuss and determine them by the like process, considerations, judgments, and executions of the judges, that the like pleas and actions are brought to a termination in the courts of the said King; with divers other liberties, grants, immunities, privileges, and pre-eminences in the same letters patent contained, as by the same letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifest and appears.

Know ye that we, desiring the improvement of the same town, and considering
the

the good and laudable services hitherto often done to and bestowed upon us and our progenitors by the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforeſaid, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give, grant, and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that they or the major part of them for the time being, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforeſaid, for the time being, be two, as often as it ſhall ſeem to them fit and neceſſary, may call together and hold within the Guildhall of the town aforeſaid, and may and may be able to have and hold there, in all future times, a certain court or convocation of the ſame bailiffs and freemen, or of the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforeſaid, for the time being, be two; and in the ſame court or convocation may and may be able to confer, treat, decree, and conſult upon ſtatutes, laws, articles, and ordinances

nances touching and concerning the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and the liberties thereof, and the good regulation of the same, according to their found discretions, or according to the found discretions of the major part of the same, assembled in the said Guildhall for the time being; of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid, for the time being, be two; and that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid and their successors, for the time being, or the major part of the same, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid, for the time being be two; being assembled and gathered together in the court or convocation aforesaid, may and shall have from time to time, and at all future times, full authority, power, and faculty to form, constitute, ordain, make, and decree, such and such like laws, institutions, ordinances, and constitutions which to them, or the major part of the same, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid, for the time being be two, shall seem, according to their found discretions to be good, salutary, useful, honest, and necessary

sary

fary for the keeping of our peace, and for the good rule and governance of the ~~the~~ said town of Kingston upon ~~the~~ Thames, and the bailiffs and freemen, and all other officers, ministers, artificers, and others inhabiting or residing within the town aforesaid, and the liberties of the same, for the time being ; and for a declaration in what manner and order the same bailiffs and freemen, and all and singular other the ministers, officers, artificers, inhabitants, and those residing in the town aforesaid, and others being there, shall conduct, behave, and employ themselves in their offices, functions, services, trades, and business within the town aforesaid, and the liberties of the same, for the time being ; and otherwise, for the further good of the republic, common utility, and good regulation of the town and liberty aforesaid, and the victuallers of the same town and liberty ; and also for the better preservation, governance, disposition, letting, and demising of lands, tenements, possessions, revenues, and hereditaments, formerly or by these presents given, granted, or assigned, or hereafter to be given or assigned to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen,

men, and their successors, and other things and causes whatsoever, touching, or in any manner concerning the town aforesaid, or the state, right, and interest of the same town, and the liberty of the same: And that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid for the time being, and their successors, or the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the said town of Kingston for the time being be two, as often as they shall have formed, made, ordained, or decreed, such like laws, institutions, decrees, ordinances, or constitutions, in form aforesaid, may make, ordain, limit, and provide such and such like pains, punishments, and penalties, by imprisonment of their bodies, or by fines, and amerciaments, or by both of them, on the part of and upon all offenders against such like laws, institutions, decrees, ordinances, and constitutions, or any one, or any of them, as and which to the same bailiffs and freemen for the time being, or the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the said town of Kingston upon Thames for the time being be two, shall best seem necessary, fit, and requisite for the observing and preserving

the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, and conſtitutions: And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, may and may be able to levy, recover, take, and have the ſame puniſhments, fines, and amerciaments to the proper aid and uſe of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, for the time being, without the hindrance of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or any officers or miniſters of us or our heirs or ſucceſſors, and without any payment or any account therefore to be paid, yielded, or made in any manner to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors: All and ſingular which laws, ordinances, inſtitutions, and conſtitutions ſo to be made as aforeſaid, we will be obſerved, under the puniſhments in the ſame contained, yet ſo that the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, conſtitutions, puniſhments, penalties, fines, and amerciaments, nor any of them, be not repugnant nor contrary to the laws, ſtatutes, rights, or cuſtoms of our kingdom of England: And further we will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and
their

their successors from henceforth for ever may have and hold, and may and may be able to have and hold within the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, a court of record every Saturday in every week through the year for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court of the town aforesaid for the time being; and in the absence of the aforesaid steward of that court, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, or two of them; and that they may hold in that court, by plaint, to be levied in the same court, all and all kinds of pleas, actions, suits, and personal demands, of whatsoever personal trespasses, by force and arms, and of whatsoever other trespasses done, committed, arising, happening, or perpetrated, or hereafter to be done, committed, arise, happen, or be perpetrated within the town aforesaid, the suburbs, limits, and precincts of the same, and the hundred of Kingston and Elmebridge; and of all and all manner of debts, pleas upon the case, deceit, account, covenant, detinue of charters, writings and muniments, and chattels, captions and detinues of cattle

Court of Record every Saturday

and chattels, and other contracts whatsoever, arising, or in future happening to arise, from whatsoever causes or things within the town aforesaid, the suburbs, limits, and precincts of the same, and within the hundred of Kingston, and Elmebridge aforesaid, or any of them, although the same trespasses, debts, accounts, covenants, deceits, detinues, or other contracts, should reach or exceed the sum or value of forty shillings; and that such like pleas, complaints, suits, and actions may be heard and determined there, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of that court for the time being; and in the absence of the aforesaid steward of the said court, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, or two of them, by such and the like process, modes, and manners, according to the law and custom of our kingdom of England, as is agreeable to our law, and in as ample a manner and form as is used and accustomed in any other court of record in any city, borough, and town incorporated within this our realm of England: And we will by these presents, and of our

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bountiful special favour, and certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, that they may for ever have, enjoy, and take, and may be able to have, enjoy, take, and levy, to the proper use and profit of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, all and all kinds of fines, issues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits to be imposed, proceed, fall, arise, happen, or be forfeited in the court aforesaid, before the aforesaid bailiffs and the steward of the court aforesaid, or before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid and the recorder of the town aforesaid, in the absence of the said steward of that court, or before two of them in that court: And that it may and shall be lawful for the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, for the better having and enjoying the same fines, issues, amerciaments, forfeitures and profits, from time to time to collect and levy all and singular such like fines, issues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits, by the proper ministers of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen

of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforeſaid, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England. *And farther,* We, graciouſly providing for the good rule and governance of the town aforeſaid in this behalf, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that the aforeſaid bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being; and the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time, may, and each of them may, and ſhall be a juſtice of the peace for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame town, and alſo within the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch; and to keep, and cauſe to be kept, all the ordinances and ſtatutes made for the good of our peace, and for the preſerving of the ſame, and for the quiet rule and governance of our people in all their
their

their articles within the aforeſaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame town of Kingston upon Thames, according to the form and effect of the ſame; and to chaſtiſe and puniſh all offenders againſt the form of thoſe ordinances or ſtatutes, or any one of them, within the town of Kingston upon Thames aforeſaid, and the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the aforeſaid town of Kingston upon Thames, as according to the form of thoſe ordinances and ſtatutes ſhall be to be done; and to cauſe all thoſe within the aforeſaid town and the village, hamlet, precinct, and liberties of the town aforeſaid, who ſhall have threatened any one, or any of our people, either concerning their bodies or the burning their houſes, to come before them, or any of them, to find ſufficient ſecurity for the peace, or for their good behaviour towards us and our people. And if they ſhall reſuſe to find ſuch like ſecurity, then they ſhall cauſe them to be ſafely kept in priſon until

they shall have found such like security. And that the aforesaid bailiffs and steward of the court aforesaid, and recorder of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being, or any three of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames for the time being be two, have from henceforth for ever full power and authority to enquire of, hear, and determine within the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and the aforesaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforesaid, and the precincts and liberties of the same town, all and all manner of felonies, murders, homicides, robberies, maihems, insults, riots, routs, forcible entries on lands or tenements, trespasses against the peace of us, our heirs and successors, unlawful assemblies, embraccors, conspiracies, contempts, concealments; and also all other misprision, misdeeds, defaults, neglects, causes and articles which belong, or from henceforth can belong, to the authority or power of a justice or keeper of the peace; and also the correction of all and singular malefactors or offenders against the statutes already made, or in future to be made,

made, concerning laborers, artificers, inn-keepers, victuallers, forestallers, regrators, and also all and all kinds of things whatsoever within the town, village, and hamlet aforesaid, and the bounds and precincts of the same, or any one of them, done, had, made, or arising, or to be done, had, made, or arise against the form of any statute or statutes already made or hereafter made, which in any manner belong or pertain to the office of a justice of the peace, in as ample a manner and form as the justices or keepers of the peace of us, our heirs or successors, within the said county of Surry, may or can hear or determine offences and faults done or perpetrated in our said county of Surry, or in any parcel thereof, or make correction thereof, any statute act, ordinance, or provision to the contrary thereof hitherto made, done, ordained, or provided in anywise notwithstanding; yet so that they do not in any manner proceed to the determination of any murder or felony, or any other offence touching the loss of life or limb, without the special command of us, our heirs or successors: and that the aforesaid bailiffs, steward of the court of
the

the town aforesaid, and recorder of the town of Kingston upon Thames for the time being, or any three of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid for the time being be two, lawfully may and may be able to attach by their bodies, all and singular persons who shall or might be indicted by the inquest, by their servants, or ministers, and deliver them all to the gaol of the town aforesaid; to stay there until thence delivered, according to the law and custom of our kingdom of England. And farther we will, and by these presents do for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, that the same bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, may have within the said town of Kingston, or the precincts and liberties of the same, one prison or gaol for the safe custody of all and singular persons attached and to be attached, or to be sent or adjudged to prison or gaol in any manner whatsoever, within the town of Kingston aforesaid, and the liberties of
the

the said town, and the village and hamlet
 aforesaid, or the precincts of the same, or
 any one of them for whatsoever cause,
 which shall be to be enquired of, prosecuted,
 punished, or determined in the town
 aforesaid, or in the aforesaid village or
 hamlet; to stay there until delivered in a
 lawful manner: And that the aforesaid
 bailiffs for the time being, or their sufficient
 deputies or deputy, may and shall be
 keepers of the gaol or prison aforesaid.
And farther we will, and for us, our heirs
 and successors, give and grant to the aforesaid
 bailiffs and freemen of the town of
 Kingston aforesaid, and their successors,
 that the aforesaid bailiffs, steward of the
 court of the town aforesaid, and recorder of
 the town aforesaid, and their successors for
 ever, or any two of them, by warrant in
 writing, signed with their hands or the
 hands of any two of them, may and may
 be able to send to the common gaol of
our county of Surry, all such persons as
 shall in future be taken, arrested, attached,
 or found in the aforesaid town of King-
 ston upon Thames, or in the aforesaid
 village or hamlet of *Surpeton, Ham, and*
Hatch, or in any one of them, or within
 the

the precincts and liberties of the town of Kingston aforesaid, for any felony done, or on suspicion of any felony; to continue there until delivered in a lawful manner.

And further, we will and grant for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, that they and their successors for ever henceforth may have, hold, and keep, and may and may be able to have, hold, and keep within the town of Kingston aforesaid yearly for ever, a * market, to be held on the Saturday in every week within the same town of Kingston aforesaid: and that during the time of that market, all and singular persons coming and resorting to that market, may and may be able for ever henceforth to sell, buy, and expose to sale all and all kinds of animals and live cattle, as well

*the Saturday
near here*

* This market was formerly of much more consequence than at present, and used to be held in some field (perhaps Little Field) as appears by the following extract from the *Magna Britannia*, and the *History of Surrey*: "The market is held here weekly on Saturday; it is kept in a great field, and is so big, as it "may indeed pass for a fair."

horses,

horses, mares, colts, fat oxen, lean oxen, bullocks, cows, calves, heifers, sheep, lambs, hogs, as other living animals of whatsoever kind, nature, or species they may or shall be, at their pleasure, according to the laws and statutes of our kingdom of England: and that the same bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, may have and take so much and such like usual toll, tollage, profits, advantages, and customs as and such as, and in as ample a manner and form as is accustomed and used, or as lawfully can or ought to be had or taken in any other market within this our realm of England. *And further*, we have granted, and of our bountiful special favour and certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors for ever, all and all manner of issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, punishments, and forfeitures of all and singular the tenants whomsoever, entirely holding and not entirely holding, residing and not residing within the aforesaid town and demesne of Kingston and
 hundred

hundred aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame, to be loſt, impoſed, made, undergone, aſſeered, or aſſigned in any manner by any of them before the juſtices of oyer and terminer of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices of aſſize of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in our ſame county of Surry; and before the juſtices of gaol delivery of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors in the ſaid county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the juſtices of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned to keep the peace in the ſame county of Surry; and to hear and determine divers felonies, treſpaſſes, and other miſdeeds in that county; and before the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices or commissioners itinerant of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the ſame county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the juſtices or commissioners of ſewers of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames

Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of the court of that town for the time being, and the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or three or two of them, being juſtices of the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the town aforeſaid, and within the village and hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kiſington upon Thames aforeſaid, and the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the ſame town and the hundred of Kiſington and Elmebridge aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame; and before the ſteward and marſhal of our houſehold, and of the houſehold of our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kiſington upon Thames aforeſaid; and before the eſcheator of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, of our aforeſaid county of Surry; and alſo before all other juſtices, commiſſioners, or miniſters of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors whomſoever, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen,
and

and their successors, by themselves or by their own proper officers and ministers, to take, seize, levy, and have all such like issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, punishments, and forfeitures to the proper use, advantage, and profit of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors for ever, and to take possession thereof without account, to be yielded, paid, or done therefore, or for any part or parcel thereof to us, our heirs or successors; to have to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, without the hindrance, disturbance, molestation, or impediment, of us, our heirs and successors, or of the justices, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, or any other officers or ministers of us, our heirs and successors whomsoever. *And further,* Of our bountiful special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we do for us, our heirs and successors, grant and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances; and also so many such the same and the like lands, tenements, and hereditaments,

taments, clerks of the market, escheators, coroners, macebearers, and other officers and ministers whomsoever. And also, so many such the same and the like escheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treasure-trove, deodands, goods and chattels called Mainour, chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themselves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, banished, waived and put in exigent for felony, chattels confiscated, year, day, waste, and estrepement, issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, liberties, franchises, immunities, exemptions, acquittals, and jurisdictions whatsoever, which the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, or any one or any of them, by whatsoever name or names, or by whatsoever incorporation, or by pretext of whatsoever incorporation formerly had, held, used, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, use, or enjoy by reason or pretext of any charters or letters patents by our progenitor Lord John, formerly King of England; or by our progenitor Edward the Fourth late King of England; or by reason or pretext of any charters or letters patents by the Lady

L Elizabeth,

Elizabeth, late Queen of England ; or by any one of our progenitors in any manner formerly made, confirmed, or granted, or formerly lawfully used, had, or accustomed in any other manner, or by any other right, custom, use, prescription, or title whatsoever, yielding and paying yearly to us, our heirs and successors, so many and such rents, sums of money, and demands whatsoever, as they were formerly accustomed to yield or pay us for the same. Willing moreover, and by these presents ordering and commanding as well the treasurer, chancellor, and barons of our Exchequer at Westminster, and other the justices of us, our heirs and successors, as our attorney and solicitor-general for the time being, and each of them, and all other the officers and ministers of us, our heirs and successors whomsoever, that neither they, nor any one, nor any of them, prosecute or continue, or make or cause to be prosecuted or continued, any our writ or process whatsoever against the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, or the men or inhabitants of the town of Kingston aforesaid, or any one, or any of them, for any things, mat-

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ters, offences, claims, or usurpations, or any of them, by them or any of them due, claimed, attempted, used, had, or usurped before the day of the making of these presents. Willing also that the same bailiffs and freemen, and inhabitants of the town aforesaid, or any of them, be not molested or troubled by any, or any one of the justices, officers, or ministers aforesaid, in or for any debt, use, claim, or abuse of any liberties, franchises, or jurisdictions within the town aforesaid, and the liberties and precincts of the same, before the day of the making of these our letters patent, or be compelled to answer to them, or any one of them. *We also will*, and by these presents grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, that they may and shall have these our letters patent under our great seal of England duly made and sealed, without fine or fee, great or small, therefore to be yielded, paid, or done in any manner to us in our *Hanaper, or else-

* Hanaper, an office in Chancery, wherein are paid all monies due to the King for the seal of charters, patents, &c. and to the officers for enrolling the same.

where for our use, although that express mention of the true yearly value, or of any other value or certainty of the premises, or of any of them, or of any other gifts or grants by us, or by any of our predecessors or progenitors to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, or any of them, before these times, made in these presents, is not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, the 17th day of November, in the first year of our reign over England, France, and Ireland, and thirtieth over Scotland.

CHARTER OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST.

*Confirmation and Explanation of former
Charters.*

*Grant of a Jurisdiction to the Bailiffs and
Freemen of Kingston, over the Hundred of
Coptstowe and Eppingham, on their releas-
ing the Jurisdiction of their ancient Court
Leet; and View of Frankpledge over the
Manor of Richmond and Hamlet of Rich-
mond, Peterham, New, and Ham; with
divers other Privileges.*

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, of
England, Scotland, France, and Ireland,
King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all
to whom these present letters shall come,
greeting. Whereas our town of Kingston
upon Thames, in our county of Surry, is
a very ancient and populous town, and
situated on the banks of the celebrated and
navigable river the Thames, from whence
also it derives its name; from which town,
by means of that river, different goods and
merchandizes, laden in wherries and boats,
are daily transported backwards and for-
wards to our city of London, and the ad-
jacent

ja-cent parts: And the men of that town have had, used, and enjoyed different liberties, franchises, immunities, customs, prescriptions, and pre-eminences, as well by virtue and reason of different charters and letters patent formerly made and granted by our very dear late Father, King James of happy memory; and by divers others our progenitors and ancestors, late Kings and Queens of England, to them and their heirs, by different names of incorporation, as by reason or pretext of different prescriptions, usages, and customs used and accustomed in the town aforesaid. And whereas our beloved subjects the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, have very humbly entreated us to confirm to the said bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, and their successors, the former charters and grants of our progenitors and predecessors, and the aforesaid liberties, franchises, immunities, customs, prescriptions, and pre-eminences; and also to explain the defects, ambiguities, and doubts arising in those grants, and illustrate the things expressed therein in inapt and unfit expressions, and reduce them

them into a certainty. And that for the better ruling, governing, and improvement of the town aforesaid, we would vouchsafe to make, reduce, and create by our letters patent the said men and inhabitants of the said town of Kingston upon Thames, by whatsoever name or names of incorporation they have hitherto been incorporated, and whether they have hitherto been incorporated or not into one body corporate and politic, by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames, as shall seem most expedient to us. *We* therefore, willing that for ever henceforth there continually be in the said town of Kingston upon Thames one certain and undoubted method of and for the custody, peace, rule, and government of the people there; and that the aforesaid town for ever henceforth be and remain a town of peace and quiet, to the dread and terror of the bad, and the reward of the good, and that our peace and other acts of justice may be the better kept there; and hoping that if the said men and inhabitants of the town aforesaid, and their successors, should enjoy fuller liberties and privileges

by our grant, they would think themselves more specially and strongly bound to do and perform all the service they are able to us and our heirs, of our special favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have willed, ordained, constituted, declared, and granted, and by these presents do will, ordain, constitute, declare, and grant for ourselves, our heirs and successors, that the men residing in and inhabitants of the town aforesaid of Kingston, and their successors, for ever henceforth be, and shall be by force of these presents, one body corporate and politic, in fact and name, by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames; and by these presents we erect, make, ordain, constitute, confirm, and declare them, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, one body corporate and politic, in fact and name, really and fully by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames; and that they by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames be, and shall be in all times to come, persons fit and capable in the law to have, purchase, receive, and possess manors,

Corporation

*Given by
Richard I.
1191.*

manors, lands, tenements, liberties, privileges, jurisdictions, franchises, and hereditaments of what sort, nature, or kind soever they be, to them and their successors in fee and perpetuity, or for the term of a year or years, or in any other manner; and also goods and chattels, and any other things of whatsoever kind, name, nature, quality, sort, or species they be; and also to give, grant, demise, alien, assign, and dispose of manors, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and to do and perform all and singular other acts and things by the name aforesaid; and that they, by the said name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingston upon Thames, may and may have power to plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended in any courts and places whatsoever, and before any judges and justices whatsoever, and other persons and officers of us, our heirs and successors, and any others whomsoever, in all and singular actions, pleas, suits, complaints, causes, matters, and demands whatsoever, of whatsoever sort, nature, or kind they may or shall be, in the same manner and form as any other of our liege subjects of this our

Kingdom

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kingdom of England, being persons fit and capable in law, or any other body corporate and politic within our kingdom of England, can and are able to have, purchase, receive, possess, enjoy, retain, give, grant, demise, alien, assign, and dispose of, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, do permit and execute; and that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may have *new seal* for ever a common seal to serve for the causes and business to be done by them and their successors; and that it be and shall be lawful for the said bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, from time to time, to break, change, and new make that seal. as shall seem most fit to them. And whereas Lord Henry the Third, late King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent bearing date the 13th day of September, and the fortieth of his reign, among other things, granted to his freemen of Kingston aforesaid, that they and their heirs, being men of the town, might elect and create coroners for the attachment of pleas of his crown arising within the town aforesaid, and should answer be-
fore

fore his justices itinerant in those parts of the attachment made by them, and of other things pertaining to the office of coroner, in the same manner as other his coroners ought and were accustomed to answer. And whereas also Lord Henry the Sixth, lately King of England, by his letters patent dated the 18th day of March, and the nineteenth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforesaid freemen of Kingston, their heirs and successors, That the clerk of his market should not for ever henceforth follow or exercise, or cause to be pursued, followed, or exercised in any mode his office in their the aforesaid town of Kingston, or the liberty of the said town; but that the said freemen of the said town, their heirs and successors, should have the correction of bread, and the assize of bread and ale, to be made or done within the town aforesaid, and liberty of the said town: and also, that they should have the use and exercise of all these things in anywise touching the office of clerk of the market, with the fines, issues, and amerciaments as entirely as the towns of Wycombe and Windsor, or any other borough within the kingdom

of England then had. And wheres, moreover, Lord Edward the Fourth, lately King of England, by his letters patent done under the great seal of England, dated the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of his reign, among other things, granted and confirmed, for himself and his heirs, to the freemen of the town of Kingston aforeſaid, that they ſhould be one body, in fact and name, and one perpetual community, incorporated of two bailiffs of that town, and men of the ſaid town, and ſhould have a perpetual ſucceſſion; and that they ſhould have within the town and liberty aforeſaid, the demeſne of the ſaid town and hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, and their appurtenances, the different cicheats and forfeitures, iſſues, fines, and amerciaments ſpecified in the ſame letters patent. And that they might have and hold within the town of Kingston aforeſaid every week, that is to ſay, on the Saturday of every ſuch week for ever, a court to be held before the ſame bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of the ſaid town for the time being; and that in thoſe courts they the ſaid bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward

steward for the time being, should hear and determine, according to the law and custom of the kingdom of England, before them divers pleas and actions arising or happening for personal matters and things within that town, and the liberty, parts, and appurtenances of the same: and that the said bailiffs, and their successors, should have one or two serjeants at mace within the town, demesne, hundred, and part aforesaid, to do and perform their business and commands. And whereas also our very dear Father, Lord James, lately King of England, by his letters patent, dated at Winchester the 17th of November, in the first year of his reign over England, France, and Ireland, and thirty-seventh over Scotland, among other things, willed, and for himself, his heirs and successors, granted to the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, that they and their successors for ever thenceforth should have and hold, within the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, a court of record on every Saturday in every week, yearly, for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court of the town aforesaid for the time

time being; and in the absence of the
aforesaid steward of that court, before the
bailiffs of the town aforesaid and the re-
corder of the town aforesaid for the time
being, or two of them, as by those several
letters patent aforesaid, among other things,
is more fully manifest and appears; in
which several letters patent respective
mention is made of the officers and offi-
ces of coroner, clerk of the market, bai-
liffs, steward of the court, serjeants at
mace, recorder, and freemen of the town
aforesaid; but there is not in the same
letters patent any distinct declaration or
certain appointment by whom or in what
manner, of what sort of persons respect-
ively, to execute those offices, the election
was to be made, nor before which of
whom any who should be respectively
chosen into those offices should take the
oaths concerning such like offices; nor are
any other circumstances necessary for the
well appointing of the said officers laid
down in the same; and yet it has been,
and still is the custom, that the same offi-
cers of the town aforesaid, are and have
been there chosen by continual use; and
being so chosen, have respectively exe-
cuted

ented and exercised those offices, as like
 officers in other boroughs or towns of the
 same kind have respectively been accus-
 tomed to perform and exercise. We there-
 fore, graciously willing entirely to remove
 all questions, ambiguities, and doubts con-
 cerning the premises; and also to approve
 and confirm the custom and use aforesaid
 for and concerning the election of the
 officers aforesaid, of our special favour,
 certain knowledge, and mere motion, will
 and declare, and by these presents for us,
 our heirs and successors, give and grant to
 the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of King-
 ston upon Thames, and their successors,
 that the freemen of the town aforesaid
 now being, and as many and such others
 as henceforth, according to the custom
 and usage in the same place hitherto used
 and approved of, shall be elected from time
 to time from the free tenants of the manor
 of Kingston upon Thames, in our county
 of Surry, into the freemen of the afore-
 said town, shall be and be called Freemen
 of the Town of Kingston upon Thames
 aforesaid, as hitherto was anciently the
 usage of the same place. And we give
 and grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and free-
 men

Freemen

*to be elected
from the
Tenants of
the manor*

men of the town of Kingston upon Thames
aforesaid, that it may and shall be lawful
for them at their pleasure to elect from
the free tenants of the manor aforesaid,
as many and such freemen of the town
aforesaid as shall seem necessary to them;
and if any, or any one so chosen at any
future time, shall refuse upon such election
to become a freeman of the town aforesaid,
that then and so often the bailiffs
and freemen of the town aforesaid, or the
major part of them, may have power by
these presents to impose any reasonable
fine upon such person or persons so refusing
for the public use of the town aforesaid,
and to levy the aforesaid fine so imposed
in a due manner. And that there
be and shall be within the town aforesaid,
two of the freemen of that town, according
to the form there hitherto used to be
chosen and appointed, who shall be and
be called Bailiffs of the Town of Kingston
upon Thames aforesaid. And that the
bailiffs of the said town for the time being,
shall be clerks of the market within
the town of Kingston aforesaid, and the
liberty of the same, and within the hundred
of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise

*and if they
refuse*

*Corporation
may fine them*

*Two
bailiffs*

*bailiffs to be
clerks of the
market -*

wife Elmbridge, and the precinct thereof, to do and perform in a due manner all offices incumbent on them, as in past times was there used and accustomed. And that there be and shall be for ever afterwards within the town aforesaid, two others of the freemen or other officers of that town in manner there hitherto used to be chosen and appointed, who shall be and be called the Coroners of us, our heirs and successors, within the town, hundred, and liberties aforesaid, who jointly or separately, and either of them, may do and perform all the offices duly incumbent on a coroner within the town, hundred, and liberties aforesaid; and in this behalf we give and grant them full power by these presents to perform in a due manner the office of coroner within the town, liberty, and hundred aforesaid: And that our attorney-general, and the attorney-general of our heirs and successors for the time being, be and shall be, from time to time, steward of the court of the said town of Kingston upon Thames, as hitherto has been there accustomed. And that they the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may and shall always have one other man

skilled

*Two
Coroners*

Att. Gen.

*to be
Steward
the Court*

skilled in the laws of this realm of England, to be chosen from time to time, and at all future times, by the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, who shall be and be called *Recorder* Recorder of the Town of Kingston aforesaid; to which recorder for the time being, we give and grant by these presents, power to do and perform all the offices whatsoever appertaining to the same. We will also, and by these presents give, grant, and confirm for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, that it be and shall be lawful for the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors for ever, that they, or the major part of them, for the time being (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being be two) as often as it shall seem to them to be fit and necessary, may and may have power at all future times to call together and hold within the Guildhall of the town aforesaid, a certain *Power to hold a Court* court or convocation of the same bailiffs and freemen, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being be two); and

in the same court or convocation may and may have power to confer, treat, consult, and decree upon the statutes, laws, articles, and ordinances of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and the liberties of the same, and of the good governance touching and concerning the same, according to their sound discretions, or according to the sound discretion of the major part of them in the said Guildhall from time to time assembled (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being to be two); and that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors for the time being, or the major part of them (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being to be two) being assembled and gathered together in the court or convocation aforesaid, may and shall have, from time to time, and at all future times, full power, faculty, and authority to institute, constitute, ordain, make, and establish such and such like laws, institutions, ordinances, and constitutions as to them, or the major part of them (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid for the time being to be two)

*and to make
laws*

shall seem to them according to their found discretions good, salutary, useful, honest, and necessary for the keeping of our peace, and for the good rule and governing of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and the bailiffs and freemen, and all other officers, servants, artificers, and others inhabiting or residing in the town aforesaid, and the liberty of the same, for the time being, and of others meeting together there; and to declare in what manner and order the same bailiffs and freemen, and all and singular other the servants, officers, artificers, and others inhabiting and residing in the town aforesaid, and others being in the same, shall behave, conduct, and employ themselves in their offices, functions, employments, and business within the town aforesaid, and the liberty of the same, for the time being; and otherwise for the further good of the commonwealth and common utility, and for the good ordering of the town and liberty aforesaid, and the sellers of provisions of the said town and liberty; and also for the better preservation, governing, disposing of, letting and demising of lands, tenements, possessions, revenues, and hereditaments, either before or by
there

these presents, given, granted, or assigned, or in future to be given or assigned to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, and other matters and things whatsoever of the said town, touching or in anywise concerning the condition, right, and interest of the said town, and the liberties thereof. And that the bailiffs and freemen of the said town for the time being, and their successors, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the said town of Kingston for the time being be two) as often as they shall have made, ordained, or decreed such like laws, institutions, decrees, ordinances, or constitutions in manner aforesaid, may have power to make, ordain, limit, and provide such and such like pains, punishments, and penalties, either by imprisonment of their bodies, or by fines and amerciaments, or both of them, of and upon the offenders against such like laws, institutions, decrees, ordinances, and constitutions, or any or either of them, as to them the said bailiffs and freemen for the time being, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the said town of Kingston upon Thames for the

*Power to
punish
fine or
imprisonment*

time being be two) shall seem to be most necessary, fit, and requisite for the observing and preserving the aforesaid laws, ordinances, and constitutions. And that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors for ever, may and may have power to levy, recover, receive, and have the same penalties, fines, and amer-
*Power to
levy fines*
ciaments, for the sole use and help of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors for the time being for ever, without the hindrance of us, our heirs or successors, or any of the officers or servants of us our heirs and successors, and without any payment or account thereof to be paid, rendered, or made in any manner to us, our heirs or successors: All and singular which laws, ordinances, institutions, or constitutions, so to be made as aforesaid, we will to be observed, under the penalty in the same contained; yet so as that the aforesaid laws, ordinances, constitutions, punishments, penalties, fines, amer-
ciaments, nor any of them, be not repugnant or contrary to the laws, statutes, rights, or customs of our kingdom of England. And whereas there already are in the aforesaid town of Kingston upon
Thames,

Thames, two bailiffs of the said town, and also two coroners, one recorder, one common clerk, and clerk of the peace, who is called prothonotary of the court of the town aforesaid, and two serjeants at mace, and certain other freemen of the town aforesaid, formerly elected and chosen into those offices according to the use and custom hitherto used and approved of in that town for the electing such bailiffs, coroner, recorder, common clerk, and clerk of the peace, freemen, and serjeants at mace; we, graciously approving of those elections of the new bailiffs, coroners, recorder, common clerk and clerk of the peace, freemen, and serjeants at mace, will that they be respectively continued in their said offices, according to the use and custom aforesaid, and by these presents declare and confirm the same for us, our heirs and successors. And whereas by use and custom in the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, for a long time hitherto continued and approved of a certain fixed, constant, and undoubted method of electing, continuing, and removing of the bailiffs of the said town and other officers, there has been used and observed,

*Confirmation
of the manner
of electing
the officers
of the
Corporation*

together with all the circumstances of time, place, and other formalities and things accompanying and belonging to elections of this kind, as well in the annual election of officers of this kind renewed and to be renewed every year, as in case of removal or death of any or any one of them whenever they happen; we approve, ratify, and confirm, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the same town, and their successors, such like use and custom in choosing, continuing, and removing the officers of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, in manner and form there continued by use aforesaid. We will, however, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, command, appoint, and ordain, that those two of the freemen of the town aforesaid, who, as is above shewn, shall after this in future be elected and nominated according to the custom and use aforesaid, before they be admitted to fulfil those offices, shall, and each of them shall take their corporal oath before the last and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court of the said town,

town, and the recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, or three or two of them in the presence of as many of the freemen of the town aforesaid as shall then chuse to be present, to fulfil the office of the bailiffs of that town rightly, well, and faithfully, in all other duties touching the same: To which foregoing bailiffs, and the aforesaid steward of the court and recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, or three or two of them, we give and grant by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, full power and authority to administer, in manner aforesaid, such like oath to the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, from time to time, so to be chosen in future; and that those two others who, as beforementioned, shall in future be elected and nominated for coroners from time to time, according to the custom and use aforesaid, before they shall be admitted to fulfil that office, shall, and each of them shall take their corporal oath before the bailiffs of the said town, so in future to be chosen, appointed, and sworn, and before the steward of the court of the said town, and the recorder of the same town for the time being, or before three

*Power to
administer
Oath*

Coroner

*How to be
sworn*

or two of them in the presence of as many of the freemen of the said town as shall then chuse to be present, jointly and severally, rightly, well, and faithfully to fulfil the office of coroner of that town, and the liberty thereof, in all the duties touching the same. To which bailiffs, steward of the court, and recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, and any three or two of them, we give and grant by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, full power and authority to administer in manner aforesaid such like oath to the coroner of the town, liberty, and hundred aforesaid, from time to time so to be chosen in future. And that he who, as is beforementioned, shall be elected and appointed recorder of the town aforesaid. before he shall be admitted to fulfil that office, shall take his corporal oath before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid for the time being, and in the presence of as many of the freemen of the town aforesaid as shall then chuse to be present, rightly, well, and faithfully to fulfil that office of recorder of the same town in all the duties touching the same : To which bailiffs of the town aforesaid, we give and grant

Recorder

he sworn

grant by these presents, for us our heirs and successors, full power and authority to administer in manner aforesaid such like oath to the recorder of the town aforesaid, from time to time, so to be chosen in future. We will also, and of our bountiful special favour, by these presents grant for us, our heirs and successors, to the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kyngston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, that they and their successors at all future times may and shall have within the town aforesaid, and the liberty and precinct of the same, such and so many serjeants at mace, not exceeding *Serjeants at Mace* together and at the same time the number of four in the whole, to exercise and fulfil all the duties touching or concerning the office of serjeant at mace within the town aforesaid, and the liberty and precinct of the same, and within the aforesaid hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmebrigg, and also within the hundred of *Copthorne and Effingham,

* The hundred of Copthorne and Effingham contains Ewel, Afted, Great and Little Bookham, Effingham, Epfom, Fetcham, Hedley, Leatherhead, Mickleham, Norbury, and Walton on the Hill.

in our said county of Surry, as shall seem most expedient to the bailiffs of the town aforesaid for the time being, and at their will and pleasure, from time to time to elect, continue, and remove in the same manner as any of the serjeants at mace of the same place have hitherto been accustomed to be chosen, continued, and removed: And that the said bailiffs for the time being may nominate and appoint under-bailiffs to execute the royal writs and other commands of the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, within the town aforesaid, and the liberty of the same, and within the aforesaid hundred of Kingston and Emelbrig, otherwise Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any or either of them, as to them shall seem most fit. And that every one of the aforesaid serjeants at mace shall carry and bear, and may and may be able to carry and bear a silver mace, engraved and marked with the sign of the arms belonging to us, our heirs and successors, and the arms of the town aforesaid or otherwise, everywhere within the town aforesaid, and the limits, precincts, and liberty of the same, before the bailiffs of the same town for the time being, or either

under-bailiffs

serjeants at mace

carry a silver mace

either of them, according to the usage and custom there anciently used. And also that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may and shall likewise have within the town aforesaid and the limits, precinct, and liberty of the same, so many and such officers respectfully, to execute and perform all such like offices belonging to or concerning the same, and to elect, continue, and remove them in such manner and form from time to time, as have been accustomed to be elected and appointed, continued and removed, within that town, and the limits, precinct, and liberty of the same. And that they the same serjeants at mace, and other the officers of the town aforesaid, so as above mentioned, to be elected and nominated, before they or any of them be admitted to execute those offices, shall, and every one of them shall take their corporal oath, rightly, surely, and faithfully to execute their offices in all things, and through all things respectively, touching or concerning those offices before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid for the time being, or such other persons as shall have been there hitherto

*Such off**as they have been accustomed to have**Serjeants at mace & other officers**to be sworn to execute their offices faithfully*

hitherto used for like offices. To which bailiffs and other persons aforesaid, we give and grant by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, full power and authority to administer such like oath to the said serjeants at mace and other officers aforesaid, according to the form and custom hitherto used in the town aforesaid. And further, of our bountiful favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, give and grant to the said bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, that they and their successors for ever henceforth may and may have power to have and hold within the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, a court of record on every Saturday in every week, yearly for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court of the town aforesaid for the time being, or any three or two of them; and that they may hold in that court, by plaint to be set up in the same court, all and all kinds of pleas, actions, suits, and demands, as well real as personal and mixed, of all personal trespasses by force and

Bailiffs

to hold

*Court of
record
on Saturday*

and arms whatsoever, and all other trespasses whatsoever within the town aforesaid, and the liberty and precinct of the same, and within the aforesaid hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any or either of them, done, committed, arising, had, or perpetrated, or hereafter to be done, committed, arise, be or be perpetrated; and of all and all kinds of debts, pleas upon the case, deceit, covenant, detinue of charters, writings, and muniments, and chattels, and the taking and detaining of cattle and chattels, and other contracts whatsoever, arising or in future to arise or happen from whatsoever causes or things within the town aforesaid, and the liberty and precinct of the same, and within the hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham aforesaid, or any or either of them, although the said trespasses, debts, accounts, covenants, deceits, detinues, or other contracts should amount to or exceed the sum or value of forty shillings; and that such like pleas, plaints, suits, and *Pleas &c. to be heard* actions may be obtained, prosecuted, *heard*

*before the
bailiffs &
ward of
the Court &
recorder or
4 3 or 2
of them.*

heard and determined there before the bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court of that town for the time being, and the recorder of the town aforesaid for the time being, or before any three or two of them by such and such like processes, methods, and modes, according to the law and custom of our kingdom of England, as and to which our liege subjects have been accustomed, and in as ample a manner and form as hitherto has been used in the court of the town aforesaid, or as in any other court of record in any city, borough, or town incorporate within this our kingdom of England, has been used and accustomed; and that the said bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may have cognizance of the said pleas, as well real as personal and mixed, and of all other pleas whatsoever, of all things arising or happening within the town aforesaid, and the liberty of the same, and within the precinct of the same, and within the aforesaid hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Emelbridge, Copthorne, and Easingham, or any or either of them. We also will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors,

fors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the ſerjeants at mace and under-bailiffs aforeſaid, or any or either of them, may and may have power to execute their offices, and all the buſineſs and commands touching the court aforeſaid, within the town and liberty aforeſaid, and within the hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Eſſingham aforeſaid, or any or either of them, and within the limits or precincts of them, or any of them, as is agreeable to our law, and in ſuch and the like manner, and by ſuch and the like proceſſes, methods, and modes as and by which the ſerjeants at mace of the town aforeſaid have hitherto been uſed and accuſtomed to execute ſuch and the like offices, buſineſs, and commands within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, or within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, according to the cuſtom of the ſame town there uſed and approved of. And further we will, and by theſe preſents, of our bountiful ſpecial favour, and of our certain

grant to the bailiffs
knowledge and mere motion, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, that they may have, enjoy, and take for ever, and may be able to have, enjoy, take, and levy to the proper use and profit of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, all and all manner of fines, issues, amerciaments, and profits to be imposed, proceed, fall, arise, happen, or be forfeited in the aforesaid court before the above-mentioned bailiffs and steward of the court, and recorder of the town aforesaid, or any three or two of them in the court aforesaid. And that it may and shall be lawful for the said bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, for the better having and enjoying the same fines, issues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits, to collect and levy in a due manner all and such like fines, issues and amerciaments, forfeitures and profits, from time to time, by the hands of the proper servants of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, as well within the town aforesaid and the liberty of the same, as within the aforesaid hundred

all fines
c.

*Power to
pay them*

dred of Kingston and Elmebrigg, other-
 wise Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effing-
 ham, and any of them. And further, we
 in this behalf graciously providing for the
 good rule and government of the town
 aforesaid, and of the men living there and
 within the hundred of Kingston, or re-
 sorting to the same, of our special favour,
 sure knowledge, and mere motion, have
 given and granted, and by these presents
 for us, our heirs and successors, do give
 and grant to the aforesaid bailiffs of the
 town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid,
 and their successors, that as well John
 Goldwyer and John Thorne, who were
 the last and next foregoing bailiffs of the
 town aforesaid, for the residue of this
 present unfinished year, when first they
 lately quitted that office, as Thomas Snel-
 ling and Read Cordrey, the present bailiffs
 of the town aforesaid, and the bailiffs of
 the said town to be in future as well
 during the whole time of their bailihip
 as also for one whole year next after
 they have respectively quitted their office;
 and also the steward of our town aforesaid,
 and the recorder of the said town for
 the time being, at all future times may

*Justices
the peace*

and shall be our justices, and every of them may and shall be the justice of us, our heirs and successors, to preserve and keep, and cause to be preserved and kept the peace of us, our heirs and successors, within the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and the precinct of the same town, and within the village or hamlet of Surpeton, otherwise Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and also within all our hundred of Kingston aforesaid (except only our village of Richmond, in which our royal palace is situated); and to keep and cause to be kept, all ordinances and statutes for the good of our peace, and for the maintenance of the same, and for the quiet rule and government of our people in all their articles within the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and the aforesaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and the aforesaid hundred of Kingston, and within the precinct of the same (except as before excepted) according to the form and effect of the same; and to chastise and punish all who offend against the form, ordinance, and statutes of them, or any of them, within the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames,

Thames, and the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and the precinct of the ſame (except as before excepted) as according to the form, ordinance, and ſtatutes of them ſhall be to be done; and to cauſe all thoſe within the aforeſaid town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred (except as before excepted) who have threatened any one or any of our people concerning their bodies, or the burning of their houſes, to come before them, or any one of them, to find ſufficient ſecurity of the peace, or for their good behaviour towards us and our people; and if they ſhall reſuſe to find ſuch like ſecurity, then to cauſe them to be kept ſafely in priſon until they ſhall have found ſuch ſecurity. And that the aforeſaid John Goldwyer and John Thorne, the late bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, for the aforeſaid reſidue of the preſent year; and Thomas Snelling and Read Cordrey, the preſent bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the future bailiffs of the ſaid town, henceforth to be during all the time of their bailiſhip, and during one entire year next after their reſpective departure from

The peace

*during the
bailiſhip
one year
after*

the Steward that office, and the aforesaid steward of
the Court the court aforesaid, and the recorder of
the Recorder the said town for the time being, or any
any three three or more of them (of whom we will
them that the bailiffs of the town aforesaid of
 Kingston upon Thames for the time be-
 ing, or either of them, be one) have for
 ever henceforth full power and authority
may hear to enquire of, hear, and determine within
determine the aforesaid town of Kingston upon
 Thames, and the aforesaid village or ham-
 let of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and the
 aforesaid hundred of Kingston, and with-
 in the precinct of the same (except as be-
felonies fore excepted) all and all kinds of felonies,
 murders, homicides, robberies, mayhems,
 insults, riots, routs, forcible entries on
 lands or tenements, trespasses against the
 peace of us, our heirs and successors, un-
 lawful assemblies, embraccors, conspira-
offences cies, contempts, concealments; and also
 of all other misprisions, misdeeds, defaults,
 neglects, causes and articles pertaining, or
pertaining to which henceforth may pertain to the au-
the authority thority or power of justices or keepers of
Justices the peace; and also the correction of all
the peace and singular malefactors and delinquents
 against the statutes already made, or in
 future

future to be made concerning labourers, artificers, landlords, victuallers, forefellers, regrators and ingrossers; and also all and all kinds of things whatsoever within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, and hundred of Kingston aforesaid (except as before excepted) done, had, committed, or arising, or to be done, had, committed, or arise against the form of any statute or statutes already made or hereafter to be made, or against the common law which belong or pertain to the offices of any justices of the peace whatsoever, in as ample a manner and form as the justices or keepers of the peace or us, our heirs and successors in our county of Surry, can and are able to hear, determine, and punish for offences and crimes done or committed in our county of Surry, or any part thereof; any statute, act, ordinance, or provision to the contrary thereof hitherto made, ordained, or provided in anywise, notwithstanding so however that they do not in anywise proceed to the determination of any murder or felony, or any other offence touching the loss of life or limbs, without the special command of us, our heirs and successors.

*but not to
determine
any murder
or felony
touching
loss of life or
limbs
without the
King's command*

*bailiffs &
citizens*

*have a
prison or
gaol*

*bailiffs or
freemen*

Moreover, we will, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, that the said bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, and their successors, may have within the said town of Kingston, or within the precinct and liberty of the same, a prison or gaol for the safe custody of all and singular persons attached or to be attached, or to be sent or adjudged to prison or gaol, within the town of Kingston aforesaid, and the village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred of Kingston, Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any of them aforesaid, or within the jurisdiction of the court aforesaid, for any cause whatsoever which can be enquired of, prosecuted, punished, and determined in the town aforesaid, or in the aforesaid village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforesaid, or within the jurisdiction of the court aforesaid, *and detain them* there until they are delivered in a lawful manner; and that the bailiffs of the town aforesaid for the time being, or their sufficient

ficient deputies or deputy, may and shall *to be kept*
 be keepers or keeper of the prison or gaol *of the Gaol*
 aforesaid. And further we will, and by
 these presents for us, our heirs and succes-
 sors, give and grant to the aforesaid bailiffs
 and freemen of the town of Kingston
 aforesaid, and their successors, that the
 last aforesaid late bailiffs of the town *Bailiffs*
 aforesaid, for the aforesaid residue of the
 present year, and the above-mentioned
 present bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and
 the bailiffs of the said town to be in fu-
 ture henceforth, during the whole time of
 their bailiffship, and during one whole
 year next after their respective departure
 from that office, and the aforesaid steward *& Steward*
 of the court of the town aforesaid, and *of the Court*
 the recorder of the same town for the *& Recorder*
 time being, or any of them, lawfully may
 and may have power by themselves, their *to have power*
 servants, or officers to arrest the bodies of *to arrest*
 all and singular such persons as shall or
 may be taken by the inquest before them
 as above mentioned, to be judged for any
 of the offences aforesaid, and deliver and
 commit them to the gaol of the town *& commit*
 aforesaid, to stay there until thence de- *to gaol*
 livered according to the law and custom
 of

bailliffs of our kingdom of England. And that the said late bailiffs of the town aforesaid, during the remainder of the present year, and the above-mentioned present bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the bailiffs of the said town henceforth, to be, during the whole time of their bailiship, and during one whole year next after their respective departure from that office, and the aforesaid steward of the court of the town aforesaid, and the recorder of the said town for the time being, or any two of them, by warrant given under their hand, or signed with the hand of any two of them, may and may have power to send *to the common gaol of our said county* *the County of Surry*, all such persons as shall in future be taken, arrested, attached, judged, or found in the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, or within the precinct and liberty of the same, or in the aforesaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, or any of them, or within the aforesaid hundred of Kingston aforesaid (except as before excepted) for any felony committed, or on suspicion of any felony; to continue there until thence delivered in a lawful manner.

And

And that the keeper and keepers of that gaol for the time being may receive and safe keep those who are thus put into their custody until they are delivered according to law, and the custom of our kingdom of England, we will, and firmly enjoining, command by these presents, that they, or any one, or any of them, by a like written warrant, signed with the hand or hands of any one, or any of them, may and may have power to send to the public house of correction (in English the House of Correction) of our said county of Surry, all such persons taken or found, or to be taken or found within the afore said village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred of Kingston afore said (except as before excepted) as ought to be imprisoned there or punished for any crime, fault, or offence committed by them, according to the laws and statutes of this our kingdom of England, in as ample a manner and form as any justices of the peace of us, our heirs and successors, in the afore said county of Surry, or any one of them, can or has power to send such or such like persons to the same house of correction. And that the keepers, masters, and go-

vernors

*by a like
written
warrant
by any one
may send
to the house
of correction*

vernors of the said house of correction,
 and every and any of them, may receive,
 keep, and detain those thus sent to them,
 according to the law of our kingdom of
 England; now we will, and by these
 presents for us, our heirs and successors,
 command, appoint, and ordain, that the
 before-mentioned John Goldwyer and
 John Thorne, the late bailiffs of the afore-
 said town of Kingston; and Thomas Snel-
 ling and Read Cordrey, the present bailiffs
 of the same town; and Robert Hatton, esq.
 the present recorder of the said town, be-
 fore they or any of them be admitted to
 execute the office of justices of the peace
 within the town, village, hamlet, precinct,
 liberty, and hundred aforesaid, (except
 as before excepted) shall, and every of
 them shall take their corporal oath upon
 the holy Gospel of God, well and faith-
 fully to execute the office of justice of the
 peace within the town, village, hamlet,
 precinct, liberty, and hundred of King-
 ston aforesaid (except as before excepted)
 in and by all things and duties touching
 the same; and also the oaths in this behalf
 provided by the laws and statutes of this
 realm of England, and required to be taken
 by

*present
 bailiffs
 recorder*

*before they
 execute the
 office of
 justice of
 the peace
 within the
 hundred*

by justices of the peace before our beloved
 and very faithful cousin, Charles Earl of ^{before the}
 Nottingham, the present steward of the ^{High Stew}
 town aforesaid; and our beloved and faith-
 ful Robert Heath, Knight, our attorney-^{& the Stew}
 general, the steward of the court of the ^{of the Co}
 aforesaid town of Kingston, or before either
 of them: to which Charles Earl of Notting-
 ham, and Robert Heath, Knight, and each
 of them, we give and grant by these pre-
 sents, full power and authority to admin-
 ister such like oath to the aforesaid John
 Goldwyer, John Thorne, Thomas Snel-
 ling, Read Cordrey, and Robert Hatton,
 without any other warrant or commission
 in that behalf to be procured or obtained
 from us, our heirs or successors. We also
 will that those two of the freemen of the
 town aforesaid, who as above mentioned
 shall in future henceforth be chosen, pre-
 ferred, and sworn as bailiffs of the same ^{The just}
 town, according to the custom and use ^{Bailiffs}
 aforesaid, before they or any of them be
 admitted to execute the office of justice
 of the peace within the town, village,
 hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred
 aforesaid (except as before excepted) shall,
 and each of them shall take their corporal ^{to take}
 oath upon the holy Gospel of God, well ^{oaths}
 and

*before the
Bailiffs*

*the Steward
the Court
Recorder*

*being three
two of them*

and faithfully to execute the office of justice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforesaid (except as before excepted) in all things, and by all the duties touching the same; and also the oaths in that behalf provided by the laws and statutes of this our realm of England, and required to be taken by justices of the peace before the last and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and before the steward of the court of the said town, and the recorder of the same town for the time being, or before any three or two of them; to which last and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforesaid, and the steward of the court, and recorder of the same town for the time being, or three or two of them, we give and grant by these presents full power to administer such like oath to the said bailiffs so from time to time to be chosen and preferred, without any other commission or warrant to be procured or obtained from us, our heirs or successors. Moreover, we will whensoever in future it shall happen that the steward of the court of the town aforesaid, or the recorder of the same town for the time being, shall die, or respectively de-

part

part or be removed from those offices, so that others shall be elected and appointed to those offices respectively, according to the use and custom aforesaid, that then they who shall be thus respectively anew elected and appointed steward of the court of the said town, and recorder of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, before they be respectively admitted to execute the office of justices of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforesaid (except as before excepted) shall, and each of them respectively shall take their corporal oath upon the holy Gospel of God, well and faithfully to fulfil the office of justice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforesaid, in and by all things touching that office; and also the oaths in that behalf provided by the laws and statutes of this our realm of England, and required to be taken by justices of the peace; to which bailiffs indeed of the town aforesaid for the time being, or either of them, we give and grant by these presents full power and authority to administer such like oath to the said steward of the court of the town aforesaid, and recorder of the

same.

same town, or either of them, so to be respectively elected or appointed anew to those offices, without any other commission or warrant for that purpose to be procured or obtained from us, our heirs or successors. We have also granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, that the bailiffs of the same town for the time being, shall not be forced, held, or compelled, nor shall either of them be forced, held, or compelled in any manner against their wills to go and appear before any justices or commissioners of the peace, or of labourers and artificers, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, or before the steward or marshal of our household, or that of our heirs or successors, or before the clerks or clerk of the market of the same household, or before any of the justices of us, our heirs or successors, assigned or to be assigned, of oyer and terminer, or justices of assize, or for the delivery of the gaol or gaols belonging to us, our heirs and successors, in the county aforesaid, or before any other officers and servants whatsoever of us, our heirs and successors, as well

well within the town aforesaid as without the same town; but that they the same bailiffs for the time being, from time to time, shall send, or either of them shall send the serjeant or serjeants at mace of the said town for the time being, to do or execute their commands, or any other their business whatsoever, for or in respect of, or in any way touching or concerning the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, or the liberty of the same, or the aforesaid hundred of Kingston, Emelbrigg, otherwise Elnebridge, Copthorne, and Essingham, or the same town or liberty of the same, or the hundred aforesaid, or any of them, before the aforesaid justices or commissioners, sheriffs, coroners, and other officers aforesaid, or any or any one of them, whensoever chance and circumstances shall so require, to serve in the room and place of the same bailiffs, and each of them. And whereas, within the town aforesaid, a market is held every week often enough for the common advantage as well of the men of the aforesaid town as of the neighbouring people, of our special favour, sure knowledge, and mere motion, we do for ourselves, our

o

heirs

heirs and successors, grant to the same
 bailiffs and freemen of the said town of
 Kingston, and their successors, that no
 other market shall from henceforth in
 future be created anew, or in any man-
 ner appointed, or any way held in any
 place whatsoever within the distance of
 seven miles from the aforesaid town
 of Kingston upon Thames, either through
 us, or any one, or any of our heirs
 or successors. And further we have
 granted, and of our bountiful special fa-
 vour, and of our certain knowledge and
 mere motion, do for ourselves, our heirs
 and successors, grant to the aforesaid
 bailiffs and freemen of the town of King-
 ston upon Thames aforesaid, and their
 successors for ever, all and all manner of
 issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, pu-
 nishments, and forfeitures, as well of those
 bailiffs and freemen, and their successors,
 as of all and singular the tenants, entire
 tenants and not entire tenants whomso-
 ever, residing and not residing within the
 said town and demesne of Kingston, and
 hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, other-
 wise Elmbridge aforesaid, and the pre-
 cinct and liberty of the same, by them or
 any

*other
 market
 their
 held -*

*grant to
 the Bailiffs
 freemen of*

*Issues
 fines &c -*

any one of them, before the justices of oyer and terminer of us, our heirs and successors, assigned or to be assigned within the aforesaid county of Surry, and before the justices of assize of us, our heirs and successors, in our said county of Surry; and before the justices of gaol delivery of us, our heirs and successors, in the said county of Surry; and before the justices of us, our heirs and successors, assigned or to be assigned to keep the peace in the said county of Surry, and to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other offences in that county; and before the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and successors, in the said county of Surry; and before the justices or commissioners itinerant of us, our heirs or successors, assigned or to be assigned, in the said county; and before the justices or commissioners of us, our heirs and successors, according to the statutes of sewers assigned or to be assigned, within the aforesaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, and the steward of that court for the time being, and the recorder of the same town for the

time being, or before three or two of the justices of the peace of us, our heirs and successors, within the town aforesaid, and within the village of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforesaid, and the hundred of Kingston aforesaid, and the precinct of the same (except as before excepted); and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingston aforesaid, and the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and successors, within the same village and hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwife Emelbrige aforesaid, and the precinct and liberty of the same; and before the steward and marshal of our household, and the household of our heirs and successors, within the aforesaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid; and before the escheator of us, our heirs and successors, belonging to our county of Surry aforesaid; and also before all other justices, commissioners, or servants whomsoever belonging to us, our heirs and successors, within the aforesaid county of Surry, to be lost, imposed, done, paid, assented, or anywise assigned; and that it may and shall be lawful for the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors,

cessors, either by themselves or by their own officers or servants, to seize, levy, take, and have all such like fines, issues, amerciaments, ransoms, punishments, and forfeitures to the proper use and profit of the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, for ever; and take possession thereof, without any account to be rendered, paid, or made thereof, or of any part or parcel thereof, to us, our heirs or successors, to have to the said bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, without the impeachment, disturbance, or impediment of us, our heirs or successors, or of the justices, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, or any other the officers or servants of us, our heirs and successors whomsoever. And whereas also the abovementioned late King Henry the Third, by his letters patent aforesaid, granted and confirmed for himself and his heirs to his freemen of Kingston aforesaid, that they and their heirs should have for ever the return of *Return* his writs from the summons of his Ex- *Writs* chequer, and all other his writs touching their said town; and from the time of the completion of that charter, the freemen of the town aforesaid, and the bailiffs and

freemen of the same town have had the returns as well of summonses from the Exchequer as of all the other writs, precepts, and commands of the said late King Henry the Third, and his successors; and the executions of the same, as well within the town aforesaid as within the hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmebridge, which are and, from time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary, were members and parcels of the demesne of the town aforesaid, and belonging to the said town from the time above-mentioned, by *virtue of the general words*: Know ye that we, in order to take away all ambiguity in this behalf, and also in order to manifest our ample and royal munificence towards the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, do of our bountiful favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion for ourselves, our heirs and successors, give, grant, and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, and according to the tenor of these presents, we will that the said bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, for ever henceforth have the returns and executione

tions of all writs, precepts, and commands of us, our heirs and successors, and the summonses from the Exchequer of us, our heirs and successors, as well of the green wax as the summonses of the pipe and other summonses of the Exchequer and of assize and attain, and of *juris utrum*, writs of *elegit*, extent, and liberty, and of all other writs, summonses, warrants, and precepts, although touching us or our people, as well within the town aforesaid of Kingston upon Thames and the aforesaid hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Emelbridge, and moreover within the aforesaid hundred of Copthorne and Effingham, in our said county of Surry, and every part and parcel thereof, so that no sheriff, bailiff, or servant of us, our heirs or successors, may enter the town or hundred of Kingston and Emelbrigg, otherwise Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham aforesaid, or any or either of them, or any way intrude in the same, or any or either of them, to do or execute any thing touching or concerning such like writs, summonses, precepts, warrants, or mandates, unless through the default of the said

bailiffs and freemen. And whereas also the abovementioned late King Henry the Fourth, by his aforesaid letters patent, willed and granted to the aforesaid freemen and their successors, that no escheator of the said King or his heirs, nor steward nor marshal, nor clerk of the market, of his household or the household of his heirs, should in anywise enter to do or execute any of their duties within the town, demesne, hundred, and parts aforesaid, nor should they or any of them in any way intrude in any things concerning or touching their duties aforesaid.

And whereas, moreover, Philip and Mary, late King and Queen of England, by their letters patent, dated at Greenwich, the 5th day of March, in the 2nd and 3d year of their reign, for the consideration mentioned in the same letters patent for themselves, and the heirs and successors of the said late Queen, among other things, gave, granted, and confirmed to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, and their successors, those two fairs and marts, which the same bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, by the grant of some of the progenitors

genitors of the said late Queen then had, to hold the same at the days, years, and places there accustomed, with all the profits and advantages which belong to or have been accustomed to belong to the same fairs and marts. And that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, might have and hold, and might be able to have and hold the same two fairs or marts, in as ample a manner and form with such like customs, profits, commodities, and advantages as they and their predecessors were accustomed, or ought to have and take in the town aforesaid, in or by the fairs or marts before that time held there, by force or reason of the letters patent aforesaid. And also that the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, should have and hold yearly in the town aforesaid, one other fair there to continue two days, at the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen; that is to say, on the day of the same feast, and on the day next after the same feast, together with a court of piepowd at the time of the same fair, and also stallage and picage, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits, commodities,

modities, and emoluments whatsoever, concerning, pertaining to, happening, arising in, or belonging to such like fairs and the court of piepowd; and together with all the liberties and free customsⁱⁿ belonging or appertaining to fairs of this kind, to be taken and converted to the proper aid, use, and assistance of the said bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors for the time being; but nevertheless, so as that those fairs or marts be not to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs. We, willing that those bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, should have, hold, enjoy, and use the aforesaid three fairs, or marts, and the rest of the premises, freely, well, and quietly, according to the tenor of the aforesaid several letters patent, have of our special favour, sure knowledge, and mere motion, given, granted, and confirmed, and by these presents, do for ourselves, our heirs and successors, give, grant, and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, as well the aforesaid three fairs or marts, together with all the profits and emoluments

ments belonging to the same, and all and singular the profits of the same, as all other privileges, jurisdictions, executions, immunities, and grants aforesaid, in as ample a manner and form as they are all contained or specified in the aforesaid several letters patent, or as the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid of Kingston upon Thames hitherto had, held, used, or enjoyed all and singular the same, and every or any of them. And further: Of our bountiful special favour, sure knowledge, and mere motion, we have granted, and by these presents do for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant special and free licence, and give lawful means, power, and authority to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, to have, take, and purchase to them and their successors for ever, manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, and other hereditaments whatsoever, within our kingdom of England, which are not immediately held of us, our heirs and successors in chief,

chief, nor by military service, so that the same manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, services, and other hereditaments so to be held, received, and purchased by them, do not exceed in the whole clear annual value one hundred pounds a year, beyond all charges and deductions, the statute of mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, or provision hitherto had, made, ordained, or provided, or any other cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. We also give, and by these presents for ourselves, our heirs, and successors, grant to every one of our subjects, and the subjects of our heirs and successors, special and free licence, and lawful power, means, and authority for them, or any or any one of them, to give, grant, sell, bequeath, or alienate to the above-mentioned bailiffs and freemen of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, services, and

and other hereditaments whatsoever, which are not immediately held of us, our heirs or successors in chief, or otherwise, by military service; so that all the aforesaid manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, services, and other hereditaments so to be given, granted, bequeathed, or alienated to the same bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, and their successors, do not exceed in the whole the clear annual value of an hundred pounds a year, beyond all charges and deductions, the statute of mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, or provision hitherto had, made, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. And further, of our bountiful favour, sure knowledge, and mere motion, we do for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant and confirm to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, and their successors, the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances,

tenances, and all the premises, and also as many such the same and such like lands, tenements, and hereditaments, clerks of the market, coroners, and other officers and servants whatsoever, and also as many such the same and such like escheats and forfeitures, lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treasure - trove, deodands, goods, and chattels, called Maynour, chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themselves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, banished, waived, and put in exigent for felony, chattels confiscated, year, day, waste, and estrepement, issues, fines, amerciaments, ransoms, liberties, franchises, immunities, exemptions, acquittances and jurisdictions whatsoever, which the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston aforesaid, or any one, or any of them hitherto had held, used, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, used, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, use, or enjoy, by whatsoever name or names, or by whatsoever incorporation, or by pretext of whatsoever incorporation, or received the issues or profits thereof by reason or pretext of any charters or letters patent,

patent in any manner hitherto made, confirmed, or granted, by our pregenitor, John, formerly King of England; or by our progenitor, Edward the Fourth, late King of England: or by reason or pretext of the charter or letters patent of Philip and Mary, late King and Queen of England; or by any one or any of our progenitors or ancestors; or by any other person or persons whomsoever; or by any other manner, right, custom, use, prescription, or title hitherto lawfully used, had, and accustomed, yielding and paying yearly to us, our heirs and successors, such and so many sums of money and demands whatsoever as they now yield or pay to us, and for the space of twenty years last elapsed have been accustomed to yield or pay in any one year: Willing, moreover, and by these presents commanding and ordering as well the treasurer, chancellor, and barons of our exchequer at Westminster, and other the justices of us, our heirs and successors, as our attorney and solicitor-general for the

time

time being, and every one of them, and all other the officers and servants of us, our heirs and successors, that neither they nor any one, nor any of them, shall prosecute or continue, or make or cause to be prosecuted or continued, any writ or process belonging to us whatsoever, against the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforesaid, or the men or inhabitants of the town of Kingston aforesaid, or any or any one of them, for any things, matters, offences, claims, or usurpation, or any of them, by them, or any of them due, claimed, attempted, used, had, or usurped before the day of the completion of these presents. Willing also that the same bailiffs and freemen and inhabitants of the town aforesaid, or any of them, be not molested or hindered by any one or any of the justices officers or servants aforesaid, or be compelled to answer to them, or any of them, in or for any debt, use, claim, or abuse of any of the liberties, franchises, or jurisdictions within the town aforesaid, and the liberty or precinct of the same, before the day of the
com-

completion of these letters patent. *And whereas* we, of our royal munificence towards the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, have by these our letters patent, not only graciously vouchsafed to confirm to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, their ancient privileges, jurisdictions, customs, immunities and liberties, and to explain and reduce to a certainty all the doubts in the former grants and charters thereof to them made, but also, of our abundant special favour, have caused and granted that the jurisdiction of their court of record and liberty for the return and execution of the writs of us, our heirs and successors, and the precepts and commands thereupon, be enlarged and extended into the hundred of Copthorne and Effingham; and have given and confirmed other privileges, jurisdictions, and liberties to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, as by these presents is more plainly manifest and appears. And whereas we require and expect, as a compensation and due retribution for all these things, nothing

else of the said bailiffs and freemen of our town aforesaid, than that the said bailiffs and freemen should quit and release to us, our heirs and successors, only that part of the jurisdiction of their ancient court leet and view of frankpledge, which now extends within our manor of Richmond, and hamlet of Richmond and Kew, and Petersham, and within the manor of Ham, part of or belonging to the manor of Richmond aforesaid; therefore the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of our said town of Kingston upon Thames, as a satisfaction of our said royal expectation, and in token of their duty towards us, and as a monument of their due gratitude, and in order that our will and desire in that behalf may be the better effected, shall for themselves and their successors, covenant and grant to and with our heirs and successors, that the bailiffs and freemen of our said town of Kingston upon Thames for the time being, will freely appear upon any writ of summons of a quo warranto to be obtained against them at any time, within the space of seven years next to come, on behalf of us, our heirs or successors, or to be prosecuted in

in the name of the attorney-general of us, our heirs or successors, for or concerning only that part of the jurisdiction of the court leet and view of frankpledge aforesaid, which extends within our manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond, Petersham, and Kew, and Ham aforesaid, and will willingly release and yield up to us, our heirs and successors, by their plea to be levied and made in due form of law, that part of the jurisdiction of that court, being within the precinct and liberty of the manor and hundred aforesaid; and will agree that judgment thereof be duly given and entered for us, our heirs and successors, so that it may and shall be lawful for us, our heirs and successors, to have, hold, use, and enjoy thenceforth for ever, against the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, the court leet and view of frankpledge, and all things belonging or pertaining to such like view of frankpledge within the limits and precinct of our said manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond and Kew, Petersham, and Ham only; and that the aforesaid

bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, after such judgment to be obtained against them, shall be entirely excluded from all jurisdiction of the court or leet and view of frankpledge within the precinct and limits of the aforesaid manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond and Kew, and within Petersham and Ham only, these letters patent, or any thing contained or specified in the same, or any use, custom, or prescription to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. We will, however, and by these presents for ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforesaid town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, that the bailiffs and freemen of the same town, and their successors, may and may be able for ever to have, hold, and enjoy a court and courts leet and view of frankpledge, and all other things belonging to such view of frankpledge; and also may have, exercise, and use all and all kinds of jurisdictions, courts leet, and view of frankpledge, as well within the aforesaid town, liberty, and precinct of the same, as within the hundred of Kingston

ston and Elmebridge, otherwife Elmebrigg, and within all the villages, hamlets, and places within the precinct of the ſame hundreds aforeſaid, the manor of Richmond, and hamlet of Richmond and Kew, Peterſham, and Ham only excepted, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, in any of their courts leet or view of frankpledge at any time before the completion of theſe our letters patent were accuſtomed to have, hold, enjoy, uſe, or exerciſe the aforeſaid judgment to be given upon the aforeſaid writ of quo warranto in form aforeſaid, or any other thing above ſpecified in theſe preſents, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever notwithstanding. We will alſo, and by theſe preſents grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingston upon Thames, that they may and ſhall have theſe our letters patent, duly done and ſealed under our great ſeal of England, without fine or fee, great or ſmall therefore, in any manner to be rendered, paid, or made to us in our hanaper, or elſewhere, for our uſe,

although exprefs mention of the true annual value, or of the certainty of the premises, or any of them, or of the other gifts or grants by us or any of our progenitors or predeceffors, to the aforefaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforefaid town of Kingfton upon Thames before thefe times, made in thefe presents, be not made, or any ftatute, act, ordinance, provifion, proclamation or reftriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, fet forth, ordained, or provided, or any other caufe or matter whatfoever in anywife notwithstanding.

In witnefs whereof we have caufed thefe our letters to be made patent.

Witnefs myfelf at Weftminfter, the 13th day of December, in the fourth year of our reign.

By writ of privy feal.

Worleſey.

CHARTER OF KING CHARLES THE SECOND.

Grant of a Wednesday's Market.

CHARLES the Second, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Whereas by a certain inquisition by our order taken at Southwarke, in the county of Surry, certified into our chancery, and remaining there by the oath of good and lawful men of the county aforesaid, it is found that it will not be to the loss or prejudice of us or others, nor to the hurt of the neighbouring markets, if we grant to the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingstone upon Thames, and their successors, that they and their successors may have and hold a market in and upon Wednesday in every week, by the year, at the town of Kingstone upon Thames aforesaid; and to take to them and their successors the toll, profits, and advantages proceeding and arising therefrom, as by the inquisition aforesaid is more plainly manifest and appears. Now know ye, that we, of our special

ſpecial favour, ſure knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, do give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors, from henceforth for ever, may have, hold, and keep, and may and may be able to have, hold, and keep a market in and upon Wedneſday in every week, by the year, at the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, in our county of Surry aforeſaid, for ever to be held, together with all the liberties and free cuſtoms, toll, tollage, ſtallage, picage, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits, advantages, and emoluments whatſoever in anywiſe concerning, belonging to, ariſing, or proceeding from ſuch like market, or which the ſame uſually had or enjoyed, to have, hold, and enjoy the aforeſaid market, liberty, free cuſtoms, toll, tollage, ſtallage, picage, fines, amerciaments, and all and ſingular the premiſes by theſe preſents above granted, or mentioned to be granted to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid.

said, and their successors for ever, to the
 only and proper aid and use of them the
 bailiffs and freemen of our town aforesaid,
 and their successors for ever, and this with-
 out account, or any thing else to be
 yielded, paid, or done therefore to us,
 our heirs or successors; wherefore we will
 and by these presents for us, our heirs and
 successors, firmly enjoining, command and
 order, that the aforesaid bailiffs and free-
 men of our town aforesaid, and their suc-
 cessors, by force of these presents, may
 well, freely, lawfully, and quietly have,
 hold, and keep, and may and may be able
 to have, hold, and keep for ever, at our
 town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid,
 the market aforesaid, in and upon
 the day aforesaid, together with all and
 all kinds of liberties, customs, toll, and
 profits proceeding therefrom. or in the
 same used or enjoyed, according to the
 tenor and true intention of these our
 letters patent, without the molestation,
 disturbance, grievance, or contradiction
 of us, our heirs or successors, or any the-
 riffs, escheators, bailiffs, officers, or mi-
 nisters of us, our heirs or successors whom-
 soever; and this without any warrant,
 writ,

writ, or process from us, our heirs or successors in future, in that behalf to be procured or obtained, although express mention of the true yearly value, or of the certainty of the premises, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames aforesaid, before these times, made in these presents, be not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, set forth, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness myself at Westminster, the 13th day of May, in the fourteenth year of our reign.

By writ of privy seal.

Howard.

All the above powers, franchises, liberties, privileges, and authorities, were by a deed of surrender, under the common seal of the bailiffs and freemen of Kingston,



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